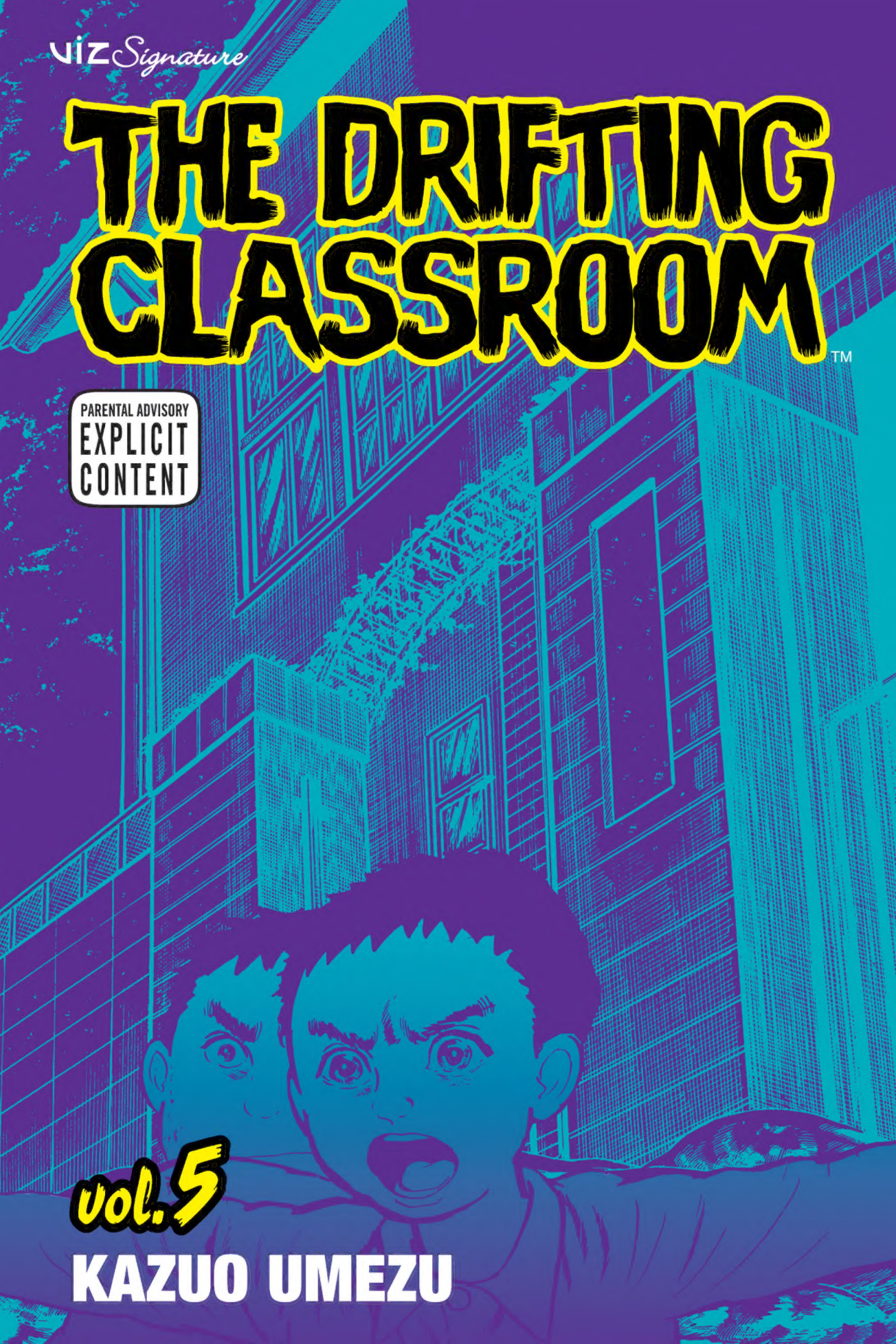
VIZ Signature

THE DRIFTING CLASSROOM™

PARENTAL ADVISORY
EXPLICIT CONTENT



vol. 5

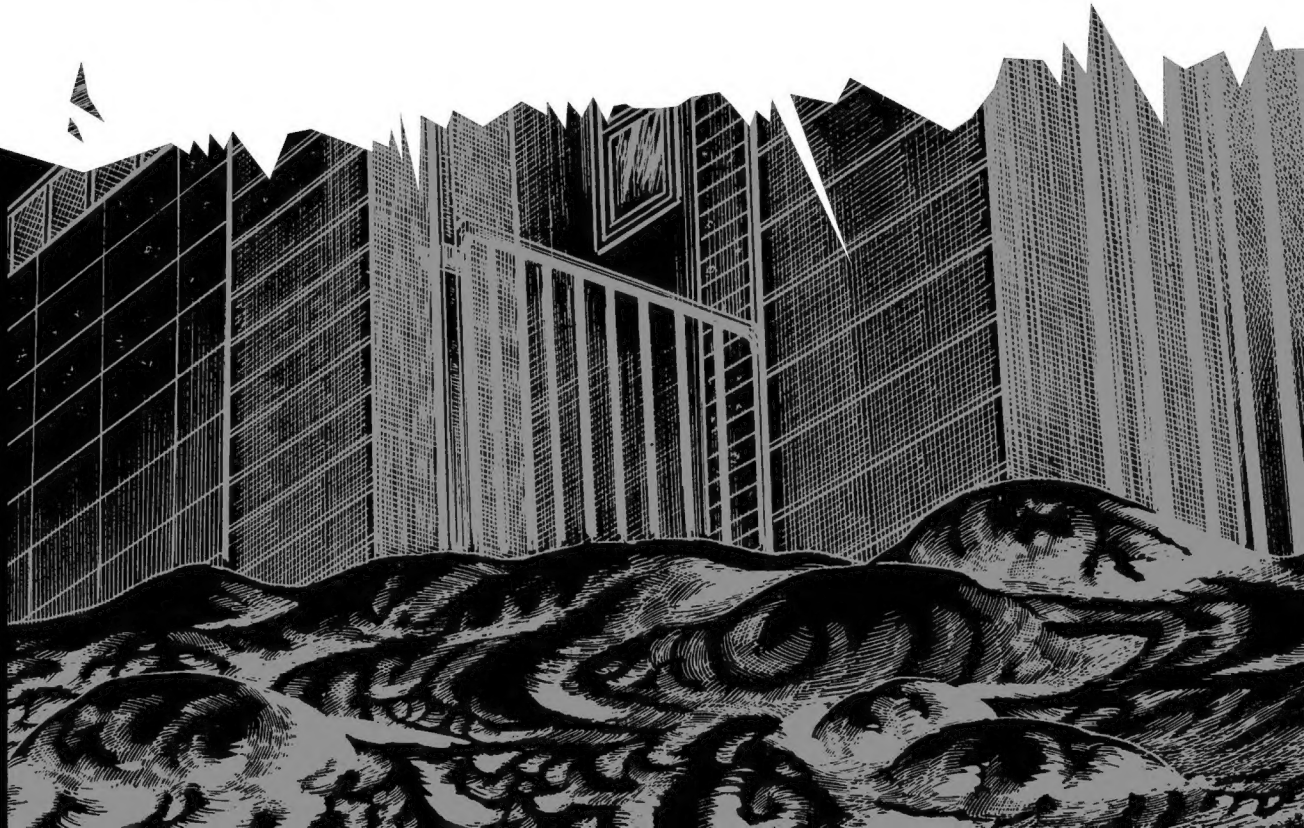
KAZUO UMEZU

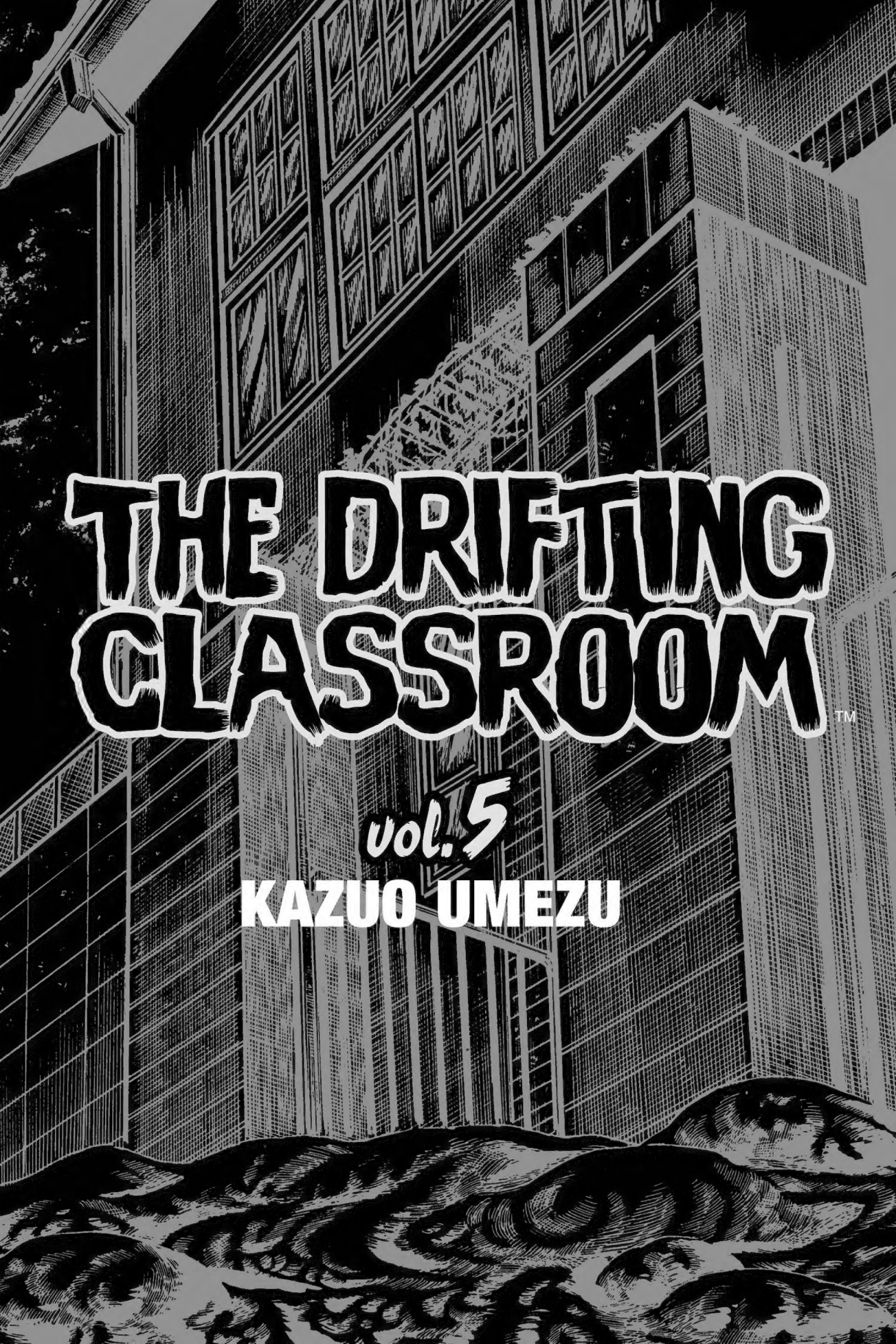
ABOUT THE ARTIST

Born in 1936, Kazuo Umezu is Japan's most respected and influential horror manga artist. Umezu began his artistic career at the age of 18, creating stories for both *shôjo* (girls) and *shonen* (boys) manga magazines, and working in an amazingly diverse range of genres. In Japan he is most famous for the gag manga *Makoto-chan* (1971), but his most ambitious works are horror and science fiction, including *The Drifting Classroom* (1972-1974), *My Name is Shingo* (1982-1986), *The Left Hand of God, the Right Hand of the Devil* (1986-1989) and *Fourteen* (1990-1995). His works have been adapted into anime and live-action films.

CONTENTS

Chapter 18: The Courageous Blow - - - - - - - - - - 4
Chapter 19: The Fatal Thirst - - - - - - - - - - - - - 19
Chapter 20: Black Spots - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 75
Chapter 21: The Plague Terror - - - - - - - - - - - 104
Chapter 22: The Beasts - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - 166
Previews - 189



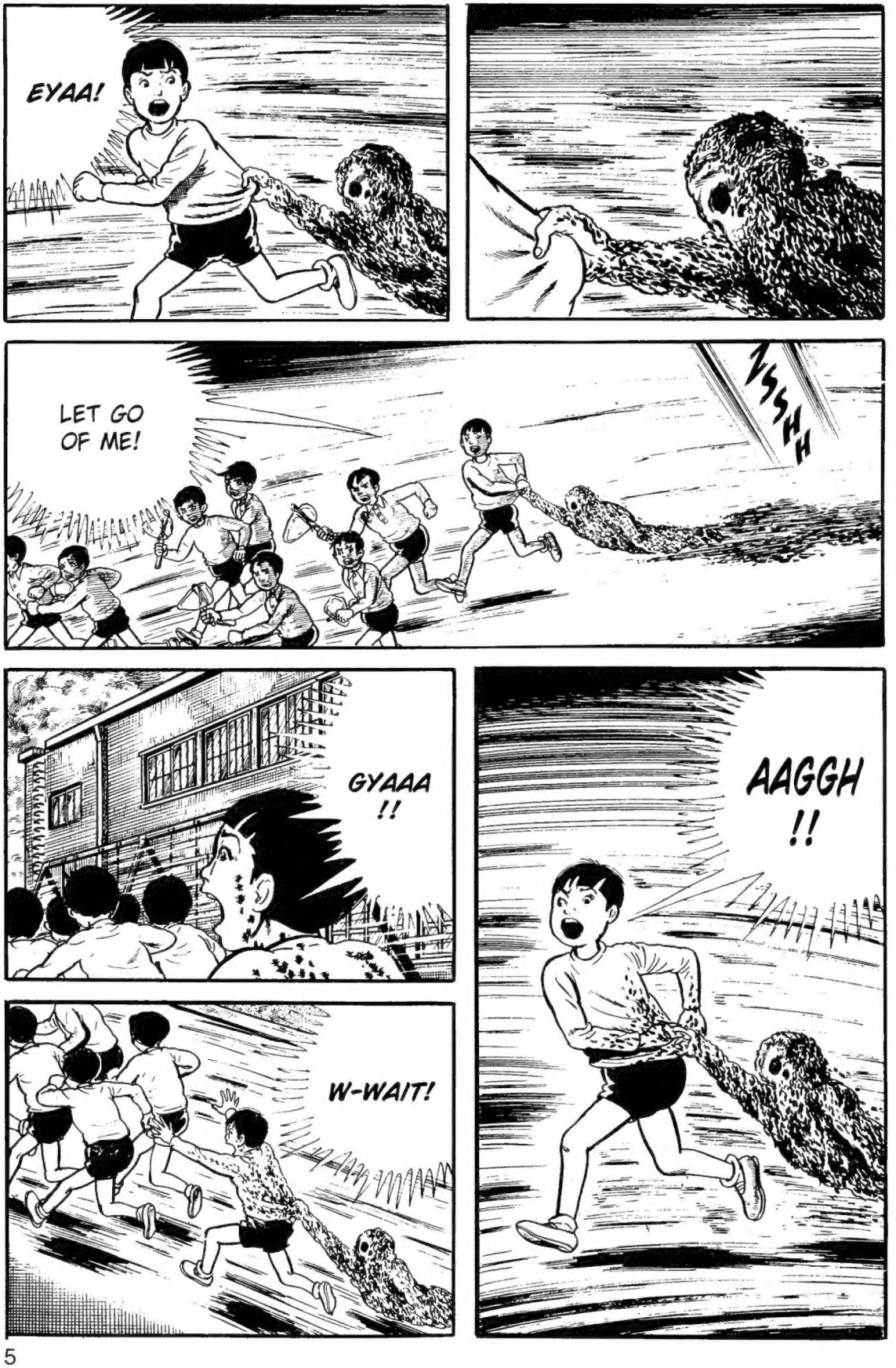

THE DRIFTING CLASSROOM™
vol. 5
KAZUO UMEZU

ZSSHH

ZSSHH

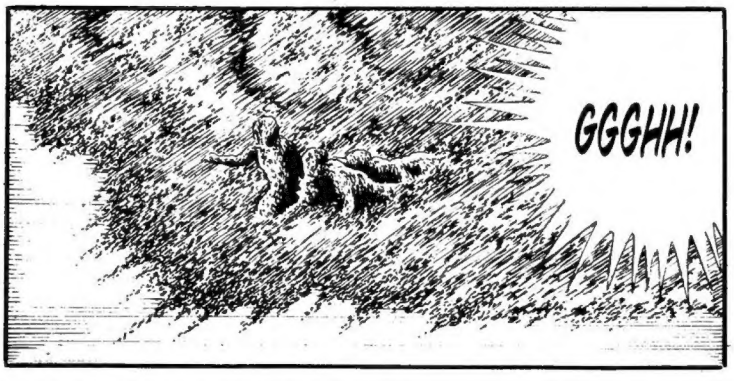
CHAPTER 18:
THE COURAGEOUS BLOW
H-HELP!

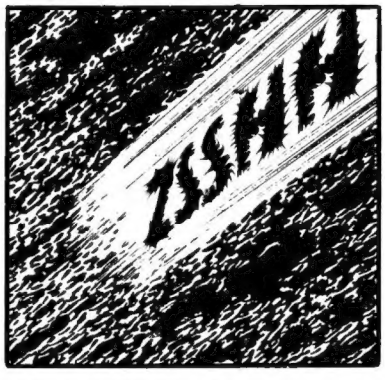
AGGHH!!!


EYAA!
LET GO OF ME!
SSSHH
GYAAA !!
AAGGH !!
W-WAIT!

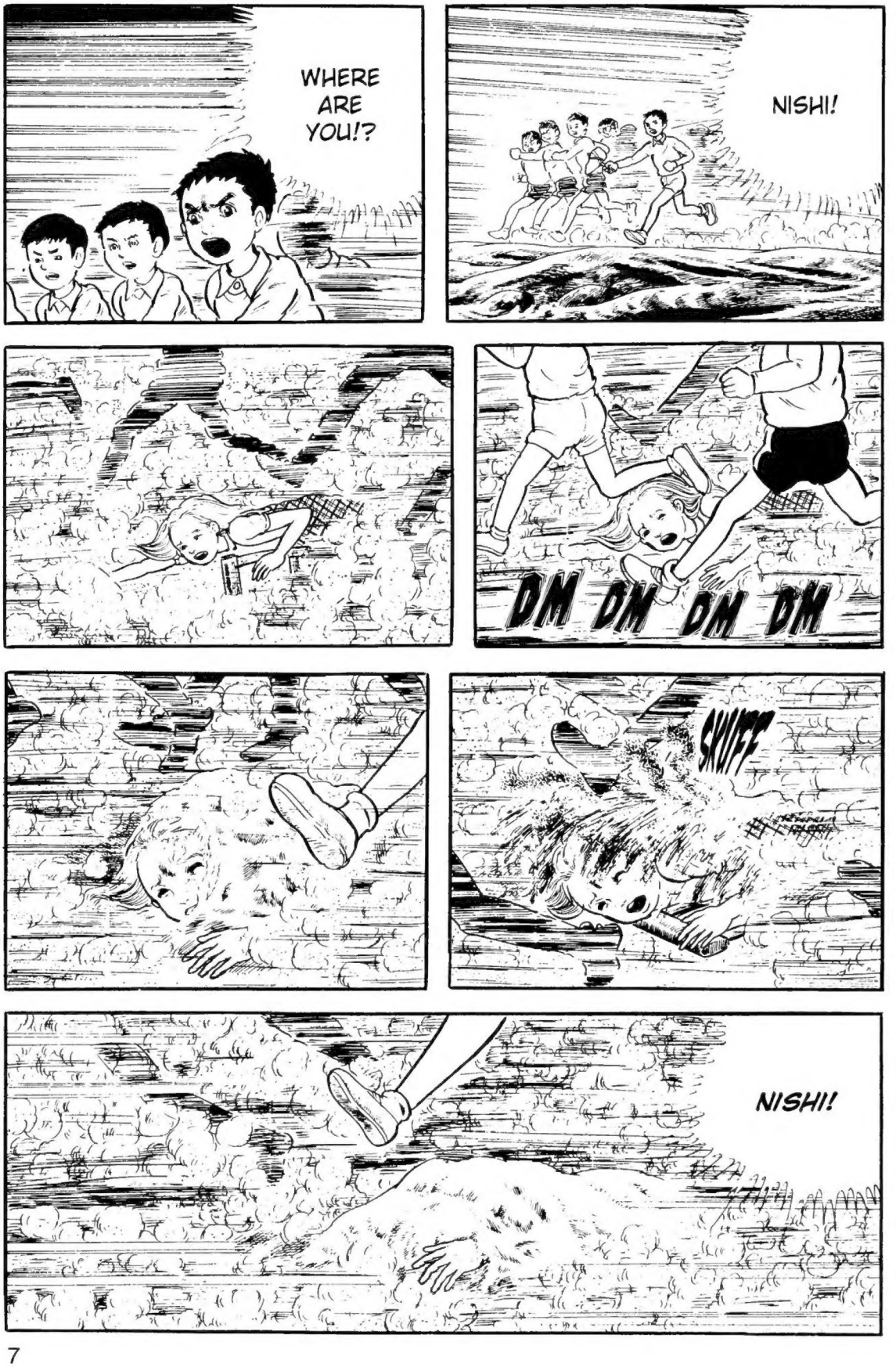
AGGHH
!

GET THEM OFF! GET THEM OFF!
ZSSHH
ZSSHH
ZSSHH


GGGHH!

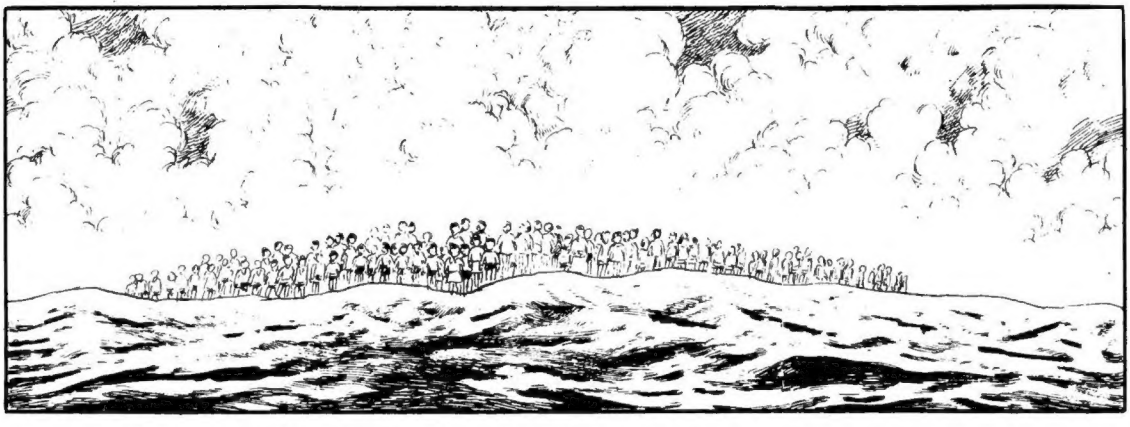

ZSSHH

AIEEE!


WHERE ARE YOU!?
NISHI!
DM DM DM DM
SKUFF
NISHI!

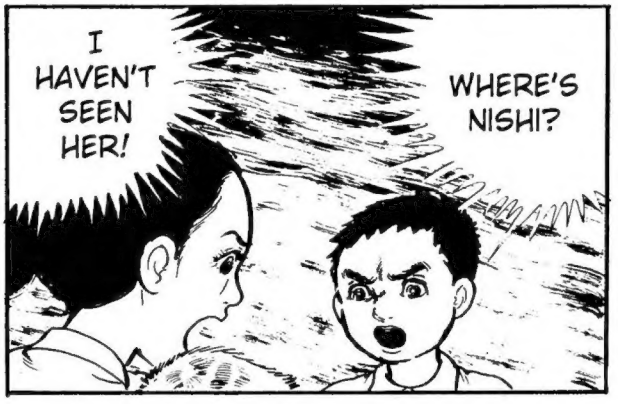
NISHI!

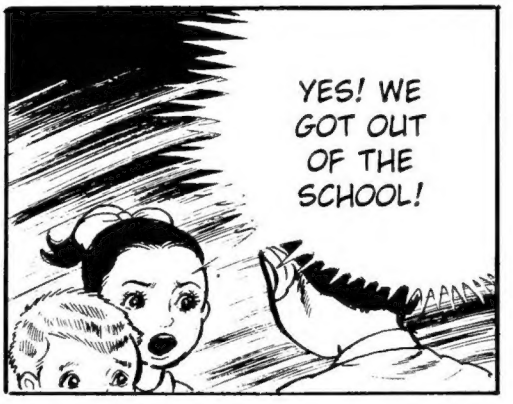
OH!



SHO!
OH MY GOD! IT'S SHO!

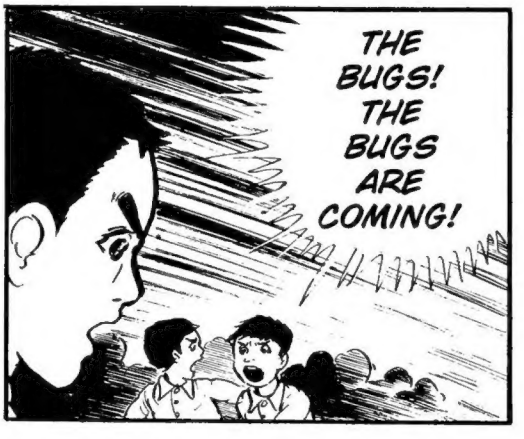
SO EVERYONE'S OKAY!?
SAKI! YU! YOU'RE ALL RIGHT!

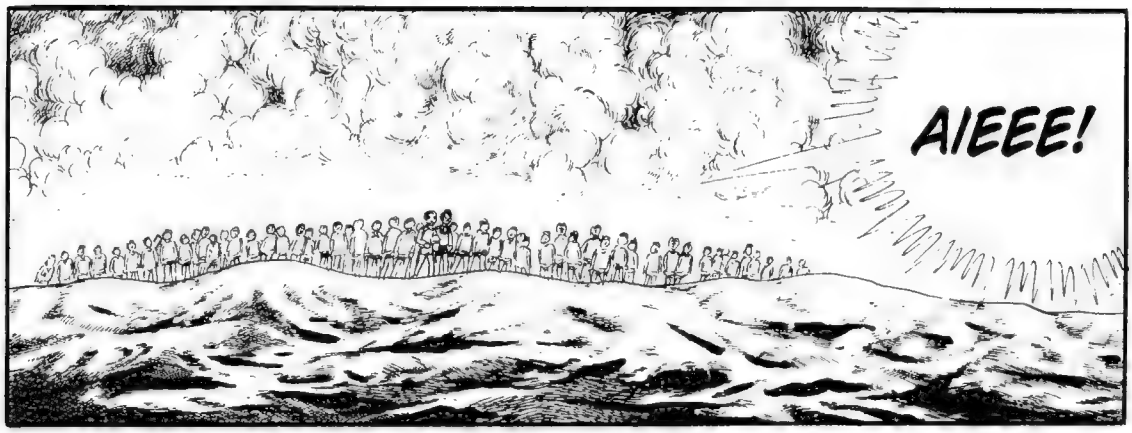

I HAVEN'T SEEN HER!
WHERE'S NISHI?


YES! WE GOT OUT OF THE SCHOOL!

ZZSSHH
AGGGHH!

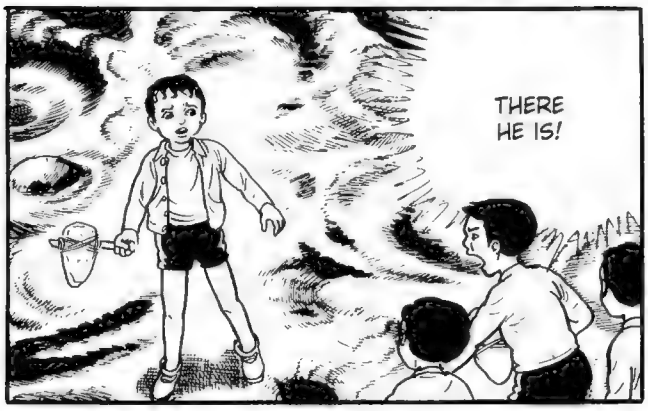
AIEEE
AIEEE
SH-SHE DIDN'T MAKE IT...


THE BUGS! THE BUGS ARE COMING!


AIEEE!

WHAT!?
THEY'LL NEVER STOP! WE HAVE TO SACRIFICE SOMEONE SO THE REST OF US CAN ESCAPE!

WE'RE FINISHED!


THERE HE IS!

NAKATA! HE'S THE ONE! LET'S GET HIM!

HOLD ON! YOU DON'T MEAN WHAT YOU'RE SAYING!

NO IT ISN'T!

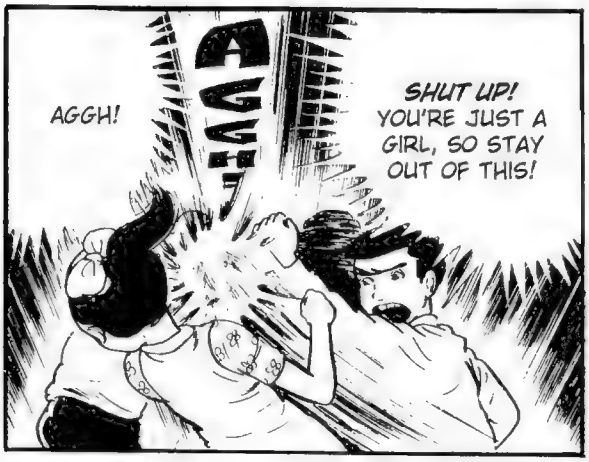
THIS IS ALL YOUR FAULT! THE BUGS WILL VANISH WHEN YOU'RE DEAD! THIS WHOLE WORLD IS PROBABLY PART OF YOUR IMAGINATION!

YOU CAN'T JUST KILL HIM!
STOP IT, OTOMO!

HEY!

GUYS, PIN HIM DOWN!
SHUT UP, TAKAMATSU!

HE'S OUR PRIME MINISTER! WE VOTED FOR HIM!


AGGH!
SHUT UP! YOU'RE JUST A GIRL, SO STAY OUT OF THIS!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?
LET ME GO!

NO! THAT SWARM HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH ME!
THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK, BUT YOU'RE NOT!

ZSSSHH
HELP!

NO I'M NOT! I'M INNOCENT!
KILL NAKATA! HE'S THE ONE MAKING THE BUGS!

HELP!
NISHI!

AIEEE
LET ME GO! DON'T YOU SEE?! NISHI'S IN DANGER!

ZSSHH
HELP ME!

AIEE EEEE
NISHI, CLIMB UP SOMEWHERE!

ZSSHH
EYAAA!

ZSSH

LET'S THROW HIM TO THE BUGS!
DIE, NAKATA!

ZSSH

NAKATA!
NISHI!
SSSHH
GASP!
SSSH
AIEE!
SSSH
SSSH
NOOOO !!!

LEAVE HER ALONE!

NO!

I *HATE* THIS WORLD! I WANT *OUR* WORLD BACK! I WANT THIS NIGHTMARE TO GO AWAY!

WATCH ME! I'LL DIE ON MY OWN!

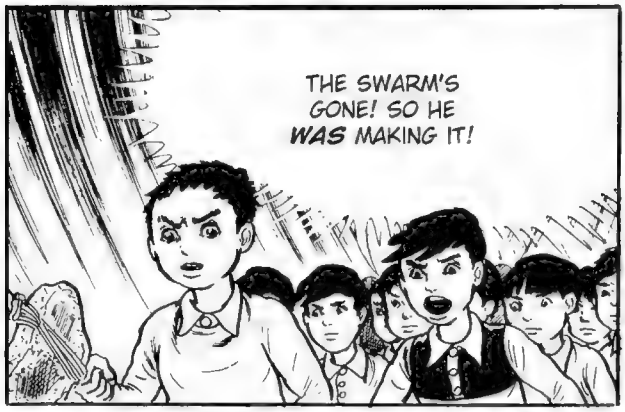
YAAH!
DON'T FORGET ME, NISHI!

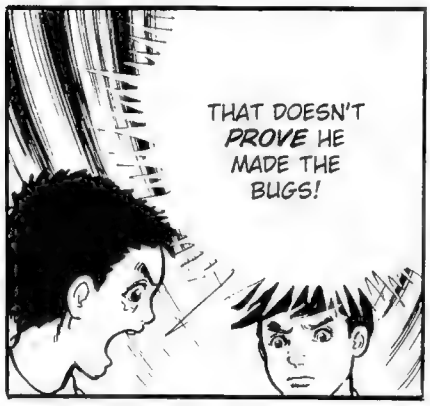
KR—AK

WHUD

AGGH!

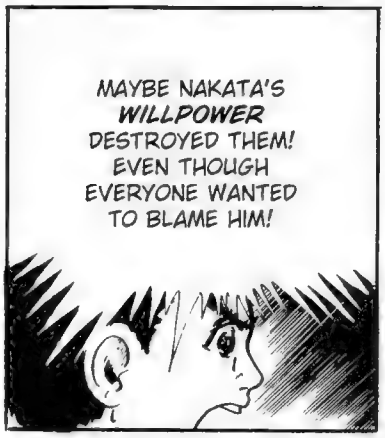
THEY'RE GONE!


THE SWARM'S GONE! SO HE *WAS* MAKING IT!


THAT DOESN'T *PROVE* HE MADE THE BUGS!

YOU IDIOT!

NAKATA!


MAYBE NAKATA'S *WILLPOWER* DESTROYED THEM! EVEN THOUGH EVERYONE WANTED TO BLAME HIM!

THEY MIGHT HAVE BEEN REAL!

H-HE'S DEAD!

NAKATA!

NAKATA!

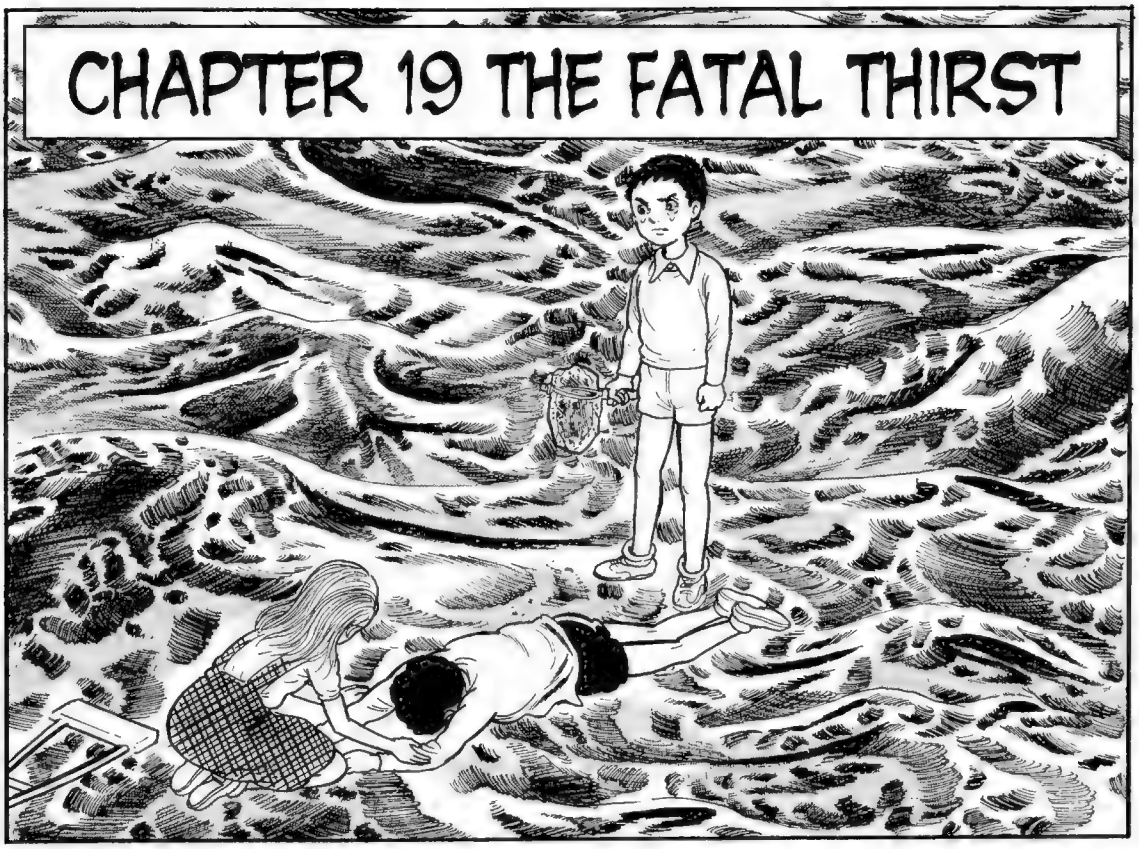
I PROMISE I'LL ALWAYS REMEMBER YOU!

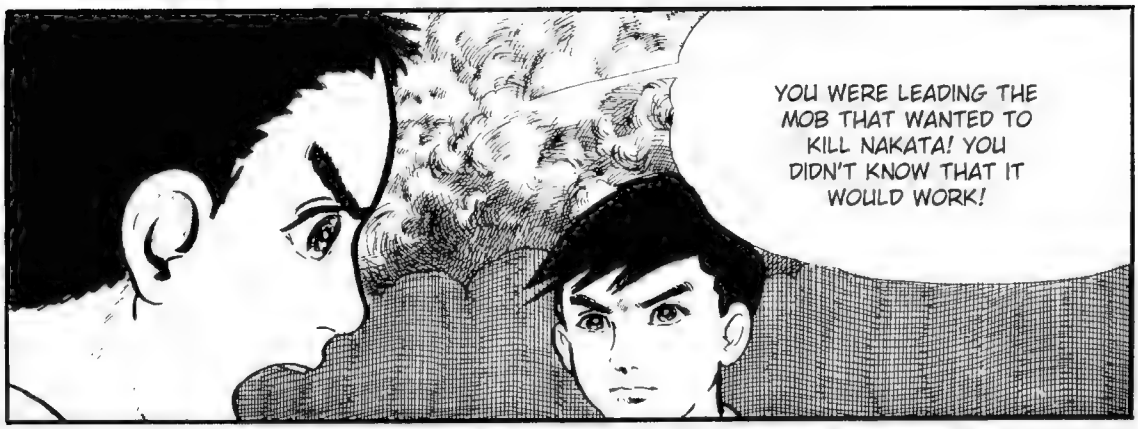
NAKATA, YOUR DEATH WON'T BE IN VAIN!

WE WERE ABOUT TO FACE SOMETHING MUCH WORSE...SOMETHING THAT WOULD TEAR US APART.

WE WERE TRAPPED IN A WORLD THAT MADE NO SENSE...BUT WE HAD NO TIME TO WALLOW IN OUR SADNESS.
MOTHER...WHAT HAPPENED WITH NAKATA ONLY SHOWED HOW TERRIFIED WE ALL WERE.

CHAPTER 19 THE FATAL THIRST

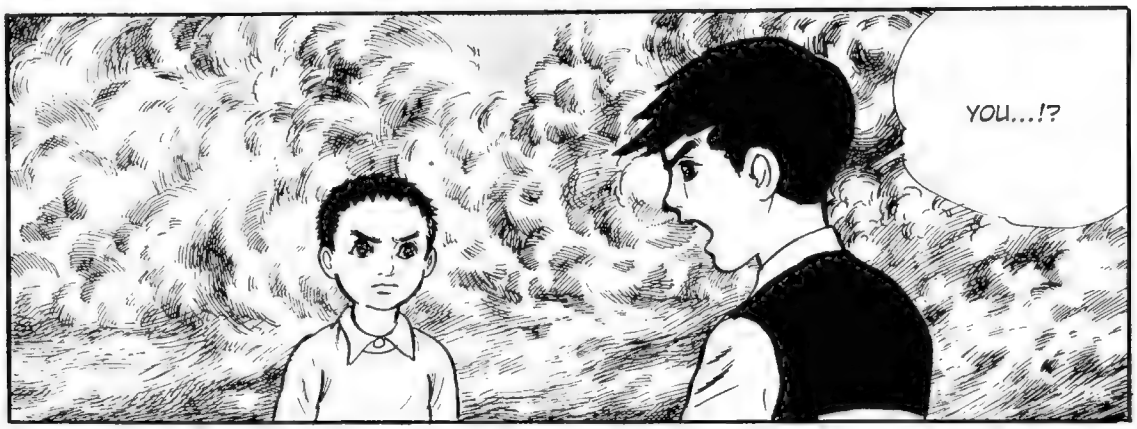



YOU WERE LEADING THE MOB THAT WANTED TO KILL NAKATA! YOU DIDN'T KNOW THAT IT WOULD WORK!

YOU CAN'T JUST DECIDE TO LET SOMEONE DIE! WE ONLY HAVE EACH OTHER. YOU KNOW THAT!
WE HAVE TO TRY TO PROTECT *EVERYONE!*

THAT'S FOR ME TO DECIDE!

THERE WASN'T ANY TIME! I HAD TO DO *SOMETHING!*


YOU...!?

OH, THAT'S RIGHT. I FORGOT YOU'RE THE PRIME MINISTER.

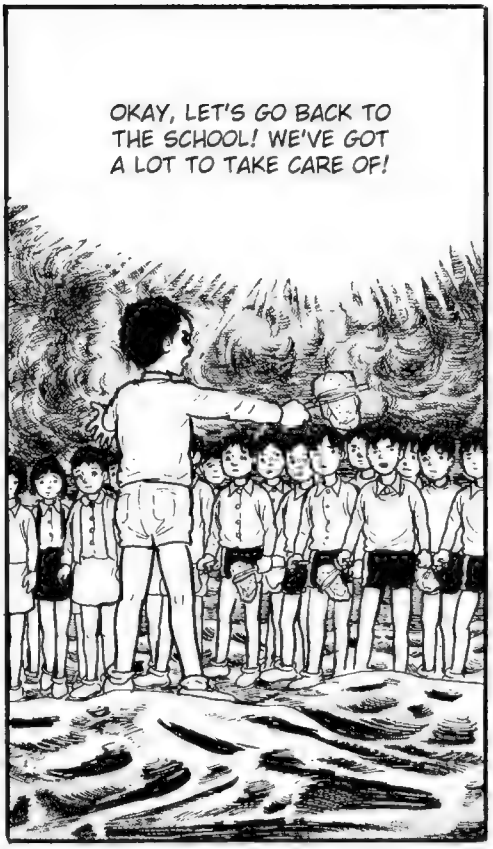
OTOMO, WE CHOSE TAKAMATSU FOR OUR LEADER!

LET'S TRY TO WORK TOGETHER. FRIENDS?

ALL RIGHT, I'M SORRY. I WAS OUT OF LINE.

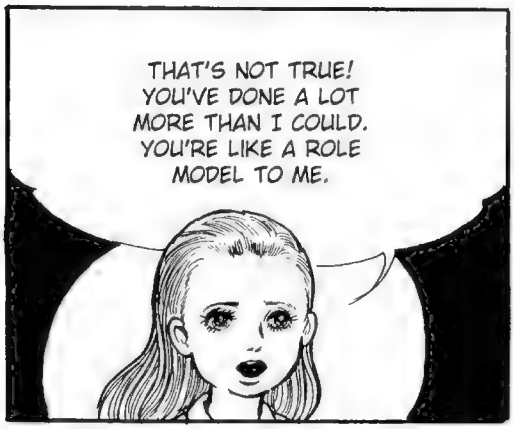
FRIENDS!

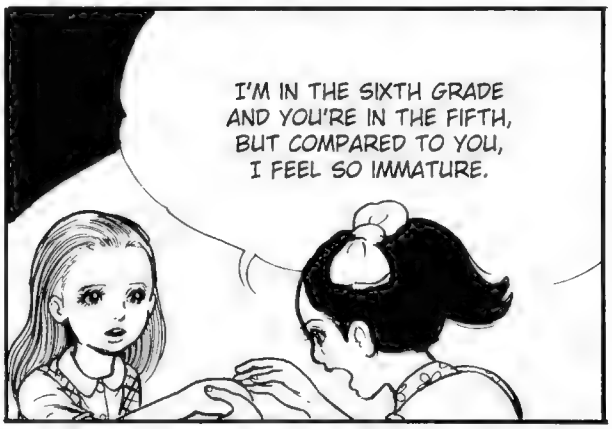
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, NISHI?

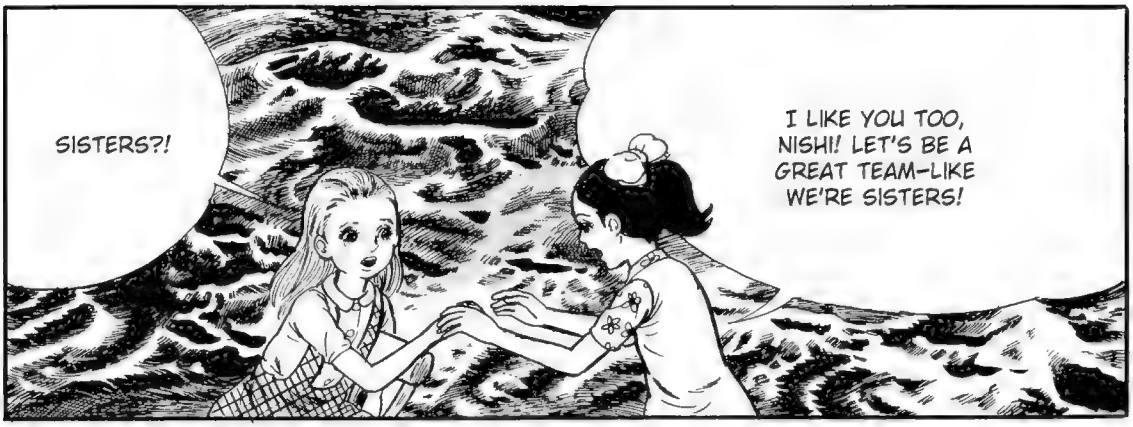

OKAY, LET'S GO BACK TO THE SCHOOL! WE'VE GOT A LOT TO TAKE CARE OF!

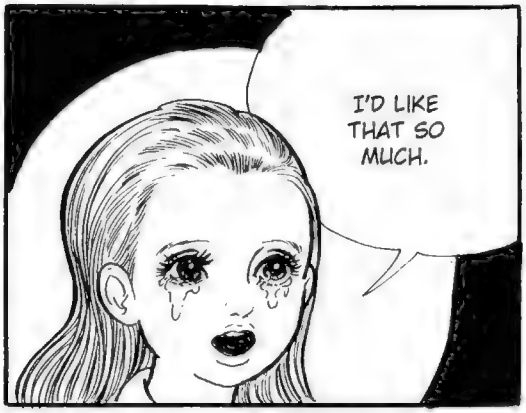
THANKS. THE SAME FOR ME!
LET'S US WORK TOGETHER TOO. IF THERE'S ANYTHING I CAN EVER DO FOR YOU, LET ME KNOW.

I'M AYUMI. AYUMI NISHI!
BY THE WAY, I'M SAKIKO KAWADA.

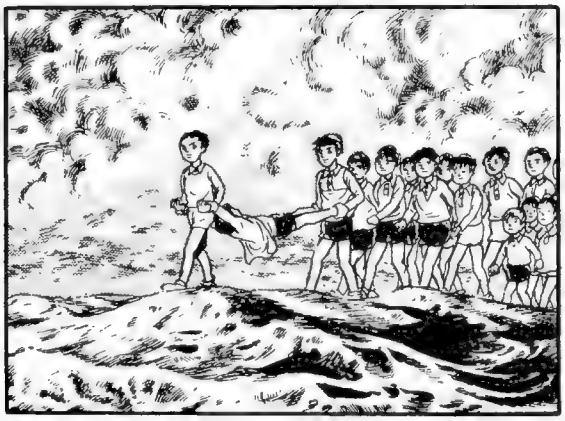

THAT'S NOT TRUE! YOU'VE DONE A LOT MORE THAN I COULD. YOU'RE LIKE A ROLE MODEL TO ME.


I'M IN THE SIXTH GRADE AND YOU'RE IN THE FIFTH, BUT COMPARED TO YOU, I FEEL SO IMMATURE.

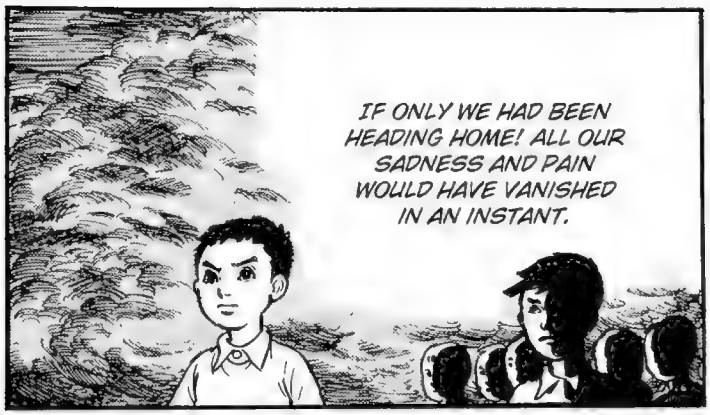

SISTERS?!
I LIKE YOU TOO, NISHI! LET'S BE A GREAT TEAM—LIKE WE'RE SISTERS!


I'D LIKE THAT SO MUCH.

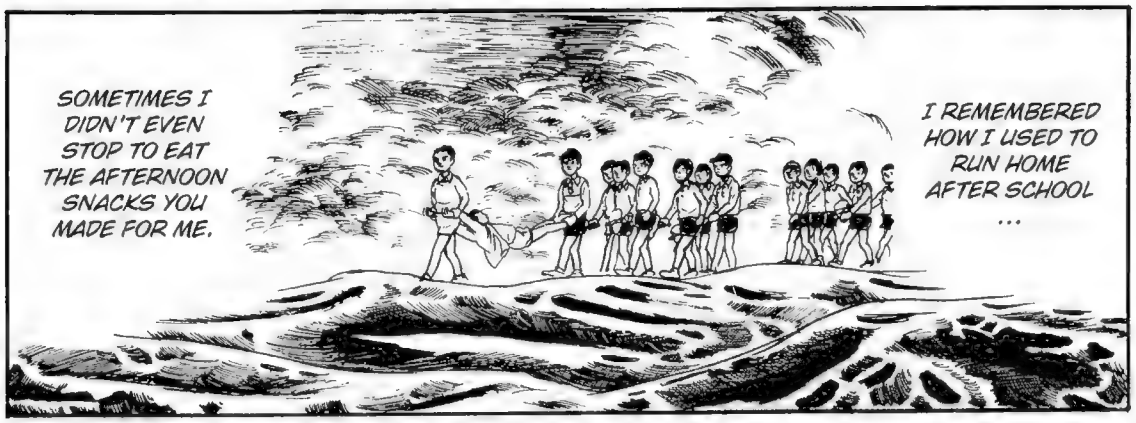
OTOMO, TAKE HIS LEGS! LET'S BURY HIM BACK AT SCHOOL.

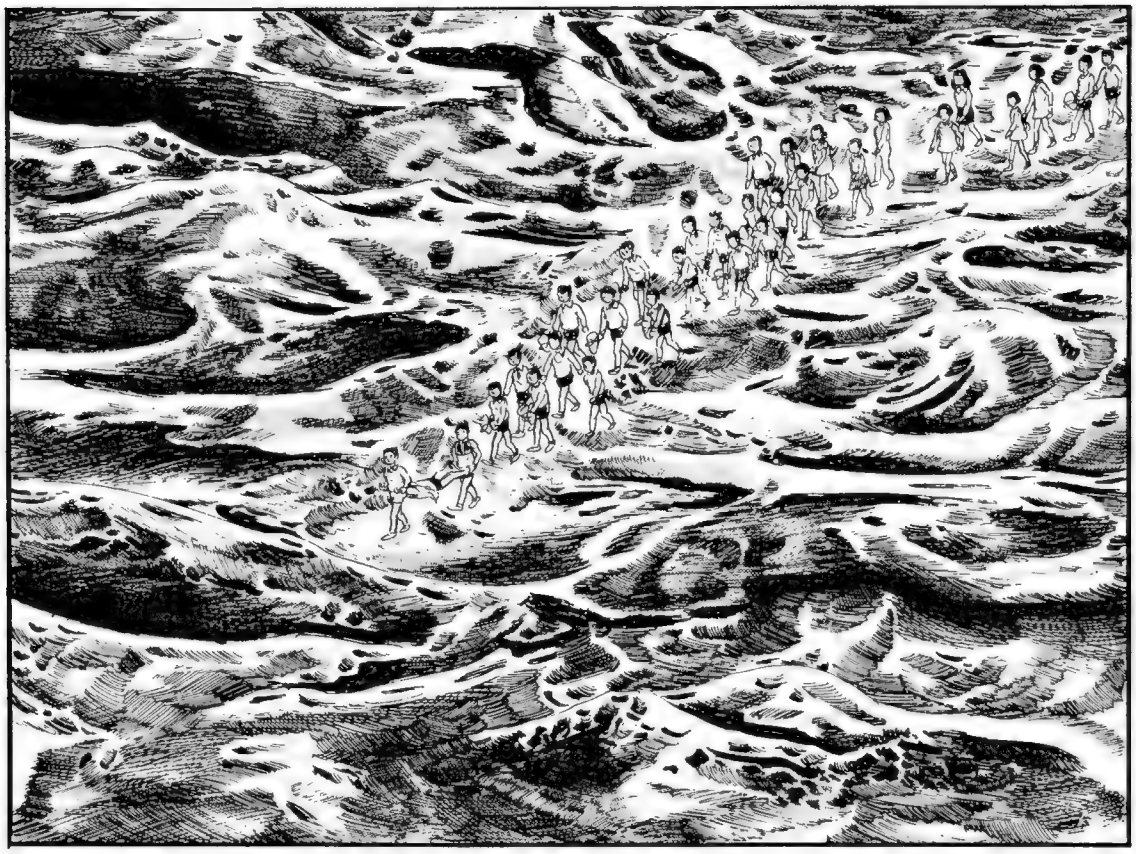


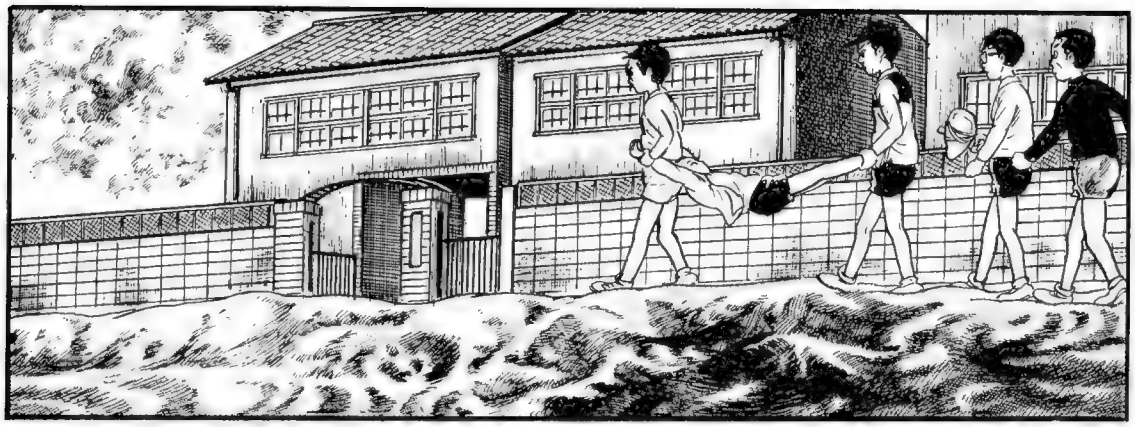
LET'S GO!

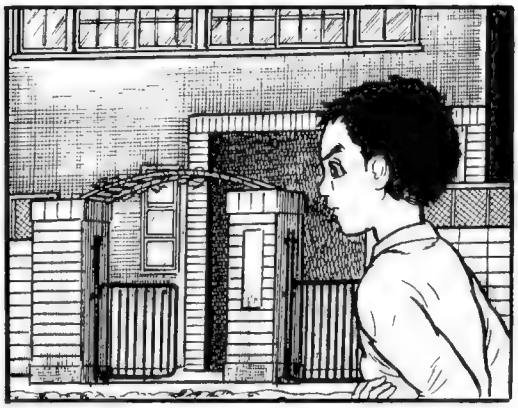

IF ONLY WE HAD BEEN HEADING HOME! ALL OUR SADNESS AND PAIN WOULD HAVE VANISHED IN AN INSTANT.

MOTHER...

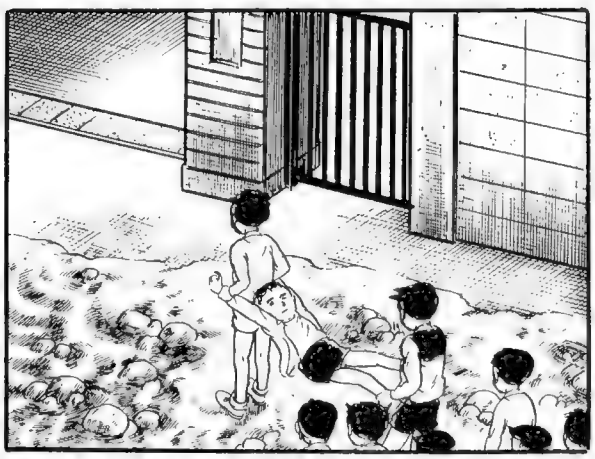

SOMETIMES I DIDN'T EVEN STOP TO EAT THE AFTERNOON SNACKS YOU MADE FOR ME.
I REMEMBERED HOW I USED TO RUN HOME AFTER SCHOOL ...

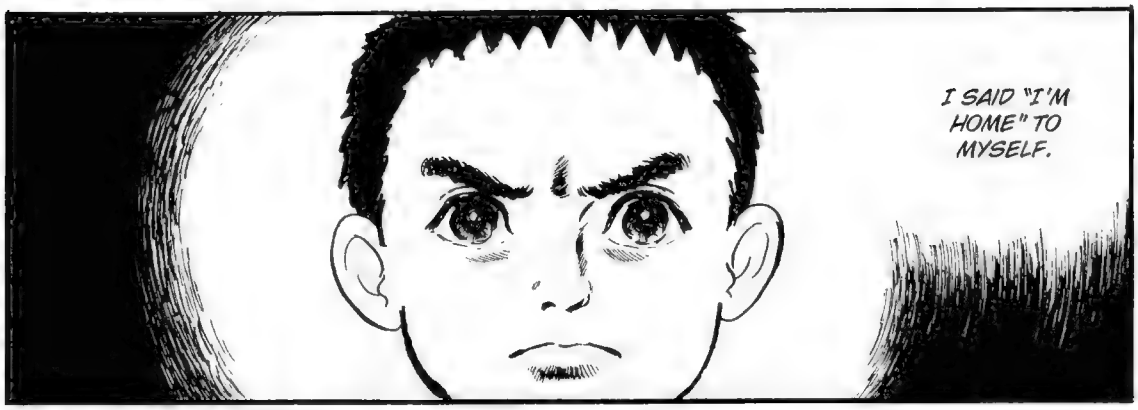






AS I APPROACHED THE SCHOOL GATE, I THOUGHT OF THE GATE TO OUR HOUSE...AND I SUDDENLY FROZE.

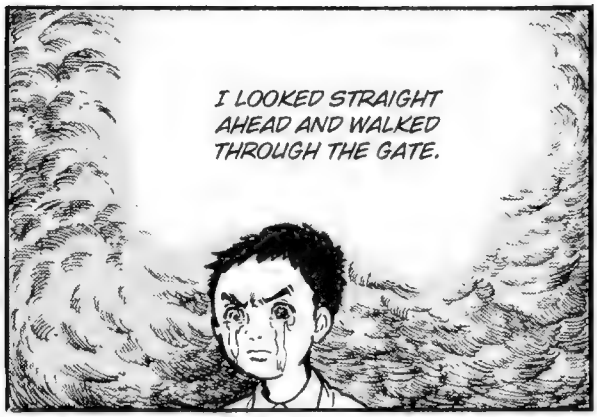



I SAID "I'M HOME" TO MYSELF.

THEN I STARTED TO SHAKE ALL OVER. TEARS CAME GUSHING OUT...I COULDN'T HELP MYSELF.

I COULDN'T LET ANYONE SEE ME CRY.

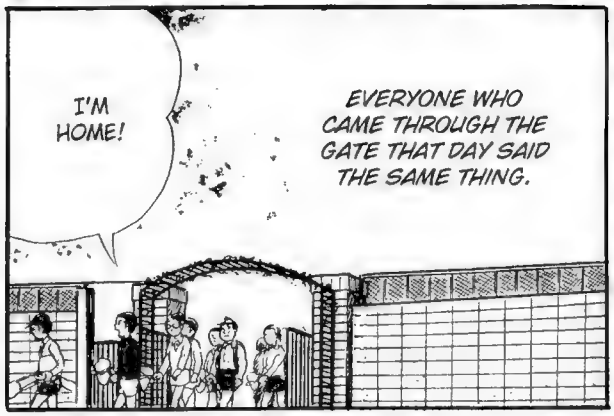
BUT I WAS THE PRIME MINISTER, SO I COULDN'T SAY ANYTHING.


I LOOKED STRAIGHT AHEAD AND WALKED THROUGH THE GATE.

BUT AT THE LAST MINUTE, I COULDN'T HELP BUT SAY "I'M HOME."

I'M HOME!

BUT THEN I HEARD OTOMO, WHO HAD BEEN SO TOUGH AND PRACTICAL JUST A FEW MINUTES BEFORE...
DID THE OTHERS FEEL THE SAME? I DIDN'T KNOW...

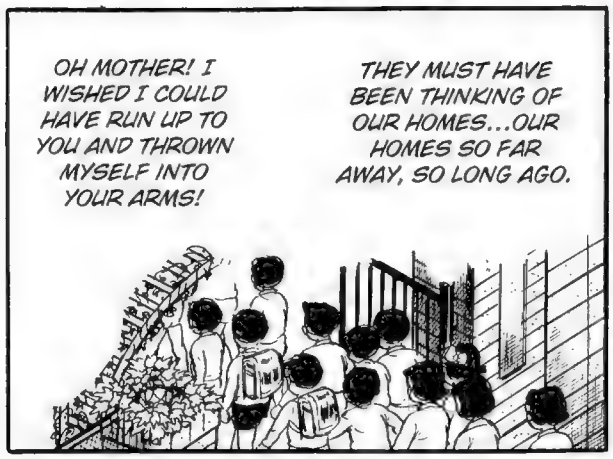

I'M HOME!
EVERYONE WHO CAME THROUGH THE GATE THAT DAY SAID THE SAME THING.

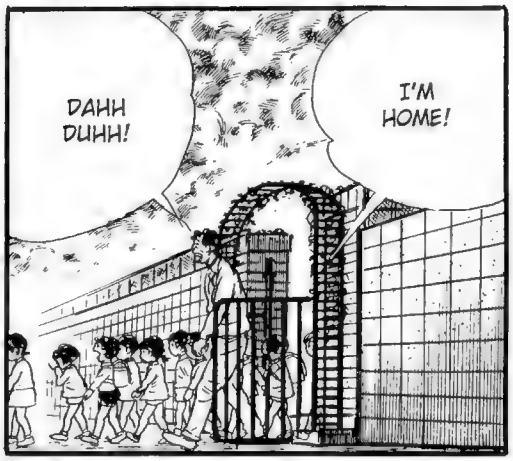
I'M HOME!

I'M HOME!

I'M HOME!
I'M HOME!

I'M HOME!

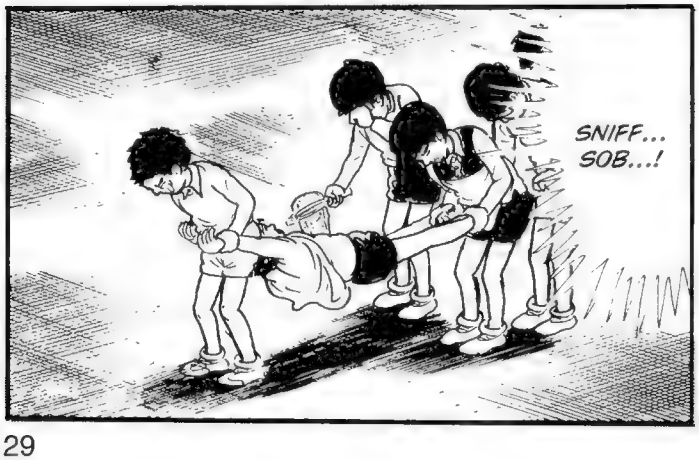

OH MOTHER! I WISHED I COULD HAVE RUN UP TO YOU AND THROWN MYSELF INTO YOUR ARMS!
THEY MUST HAVE BEEN THINKING OF OUR HOMES...OUR HOMES SO FAR AWAY, SO LONG AGO.


DAHH DUHH!
I'M HOME!

SHO!

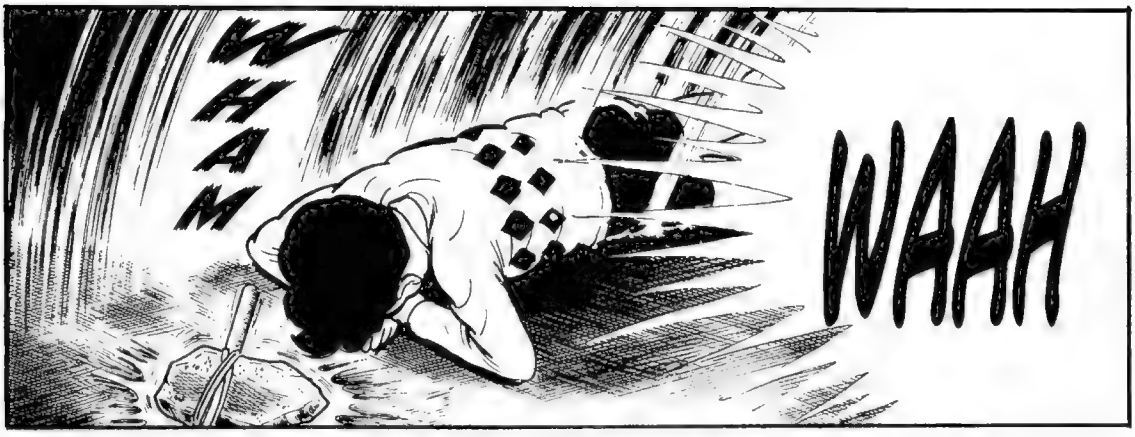
OUR SLOGAN?
LET'S MAKE THAT OUR SLOGAN.

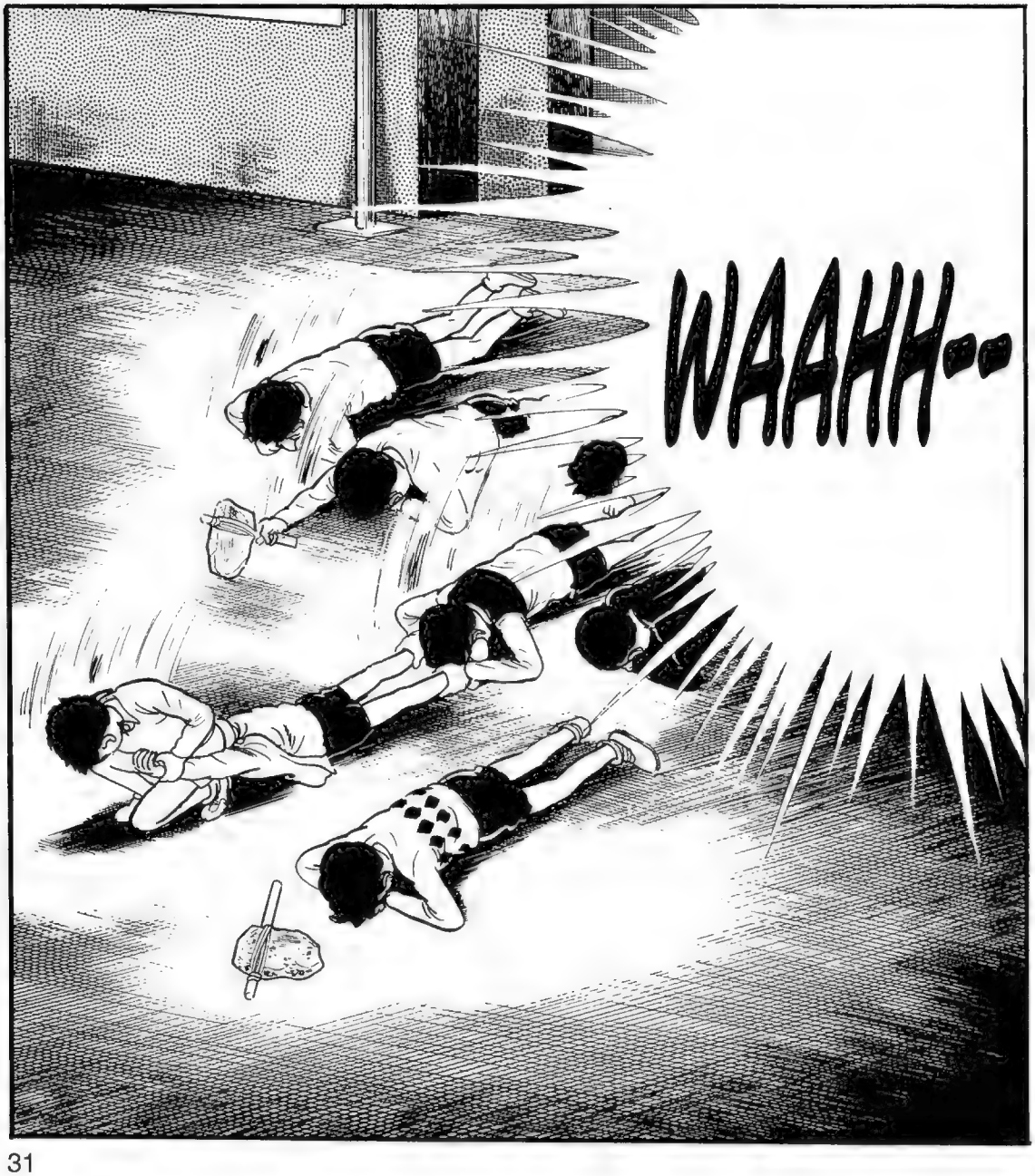
UNTIL THE DAY WHEN WE REALLY DO GO HOME!
W-WE'LL SAY IT EVERY DAY, NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS...

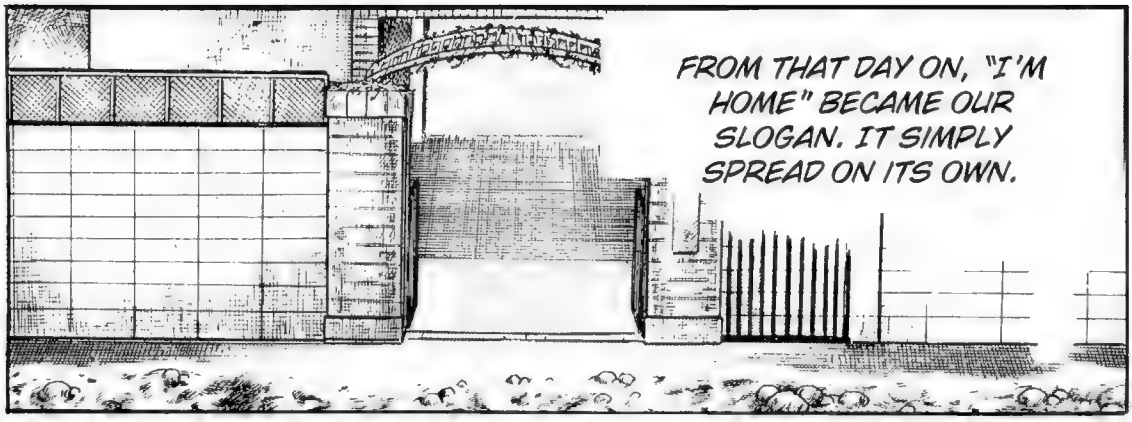

SNIFF... SOB...!

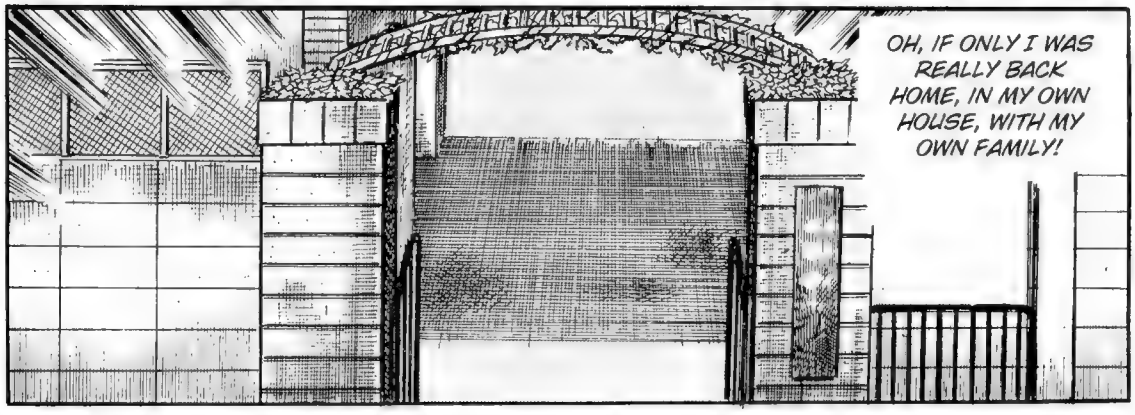
SOB...!

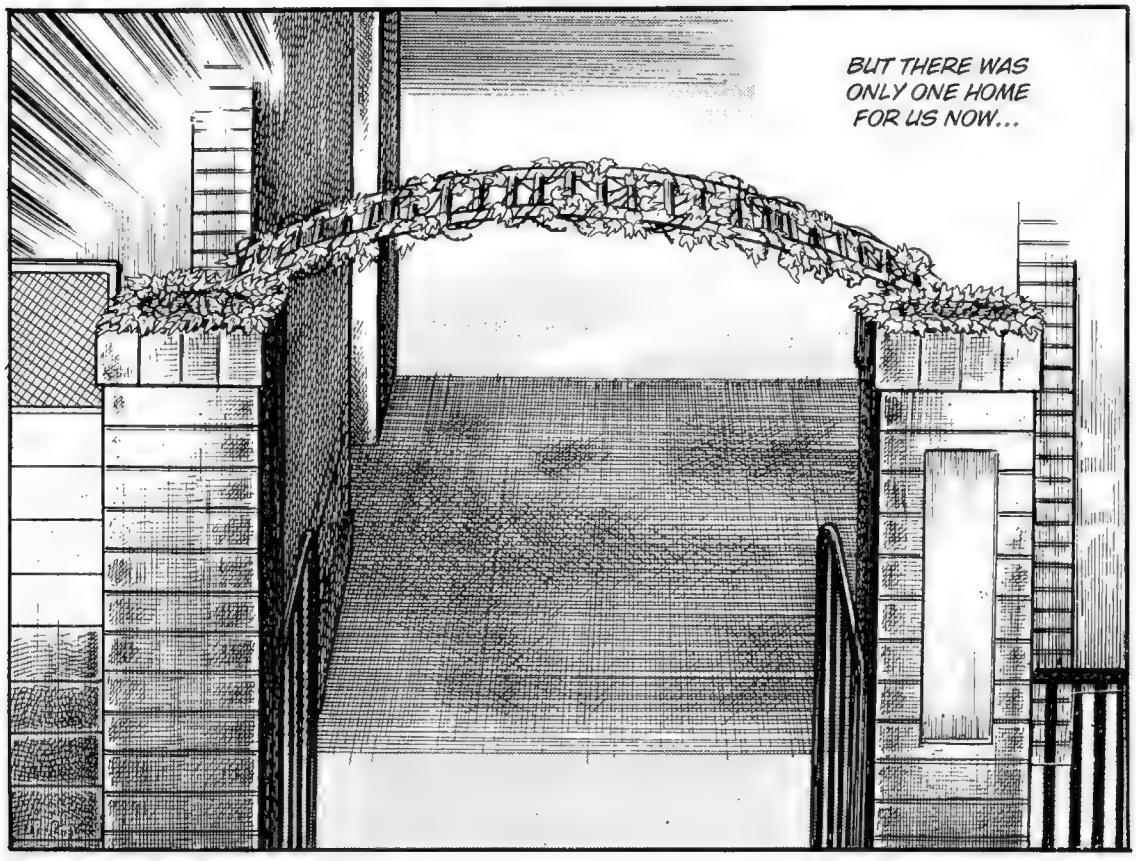
"I'M HOME..." IT SOUNDS SO SIMPLE...
I-I THINK IT'S A GREAT IDEA!
I ALWAYS TOOK THE WORDS "I'M HOME" FOR GRANTED...
WRITING IS MY FAVORITE CLASS AT SCHOOL...
I ALWAYS WANTED TO BE A NOVELIST. BUT THOSE WORDS MEAN MORE TO ME NOW THAN ANYTHING I'VE EVER READ.
BUT NOW IT SOUNDS SO INCREDIBLE!
NOTHING COULD BE SO FAR AWAY!
IT WAS SOMETHING I USED TO SAY EVERY DAY WITHOUT THINKING ABOUT IT...BUT NOW I CAN'T THINK OF ANYTHING ELSE...

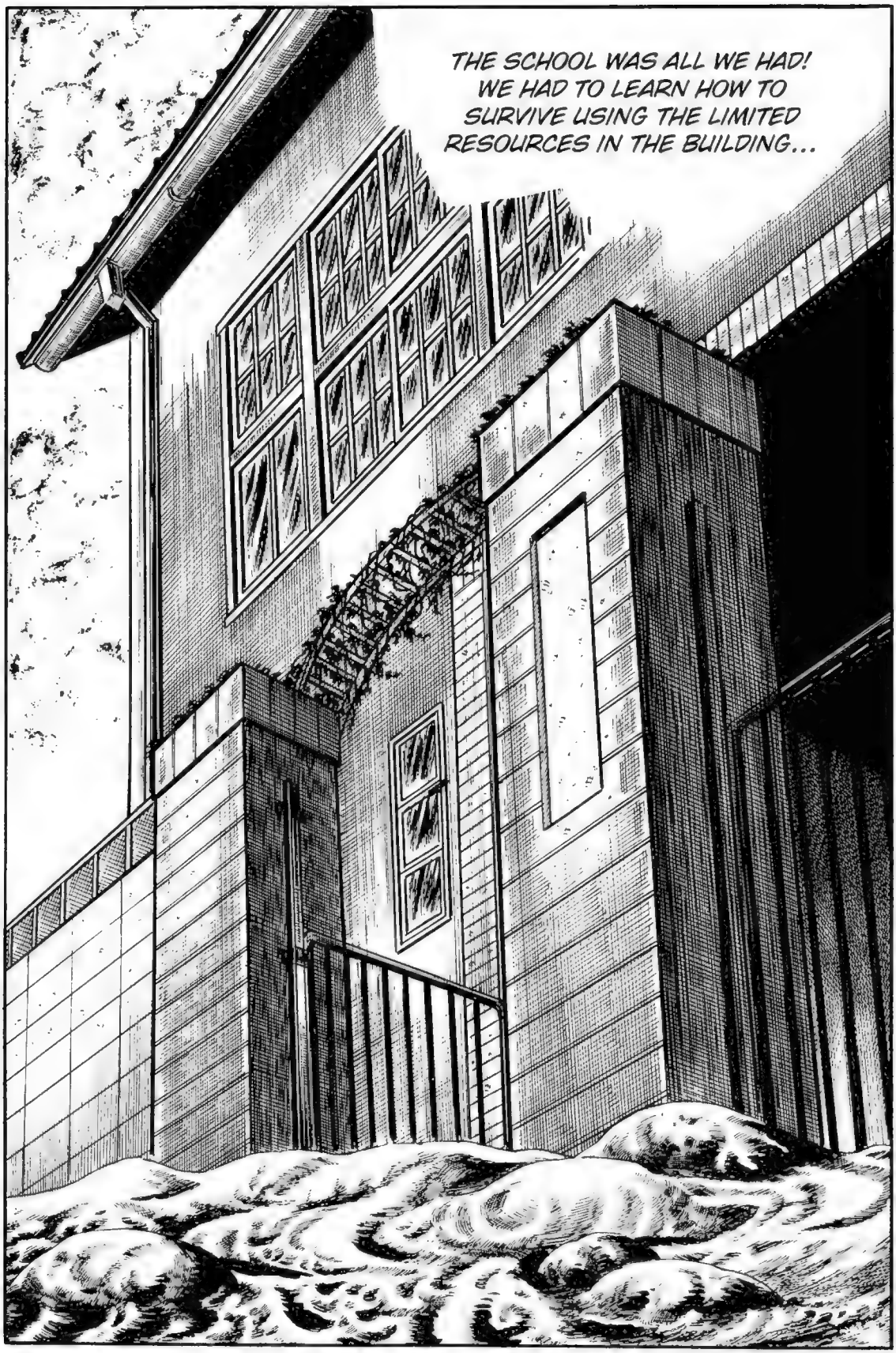

WHAM
WAAH


WAAHH--


FROM THAT DAY ON, "I'M HOME" BECAME OUR SLOGAN. IT SIMPLY SPREAD ON ITS OWN.

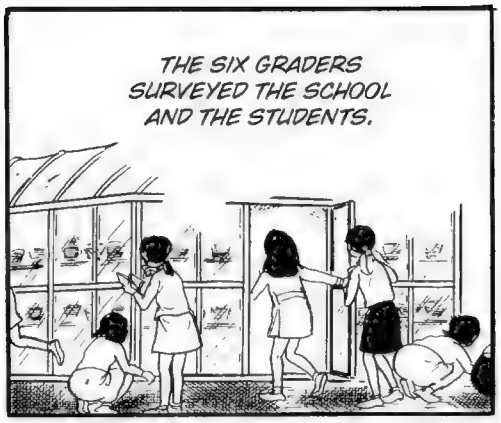

OH, IF ONLY I WAS REALLY BACK HOME, IN MY OWN HOUSE, WITH MY OWN FAMILY!


BUT THERE WAS ONLY ONE HOME FOR US NOW...


THE SCHOOL WAS ALL WE HAD! WE HAD TO LEARN HOW TO SURVIVE USING THE LIMITED RESOURCES IN THE BUILDING...

*SIGN=CONFERENCE ROOM

HERE YOU GO, TAKAMATSU. THERE'S 810 PEOPLE AT SCHOOL, NOT COUNTING SEKIYA.

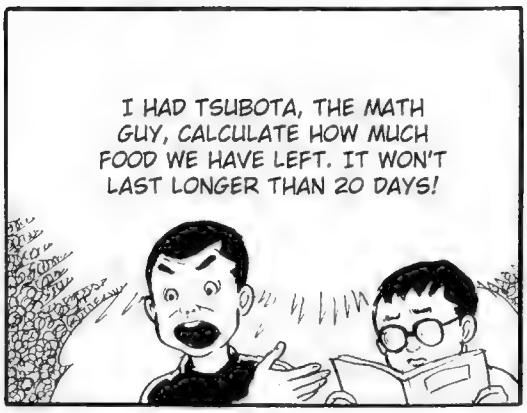

THE SIX GRADERS SURVEYED THE SCHOOL AND THE STUDENTS.

HEY. TAKAMATSU!

FIFTY-ONE?!

THAT MEANS THERE'S BEEN 51 DEATHS, INCLUDING THE TEACHERS!

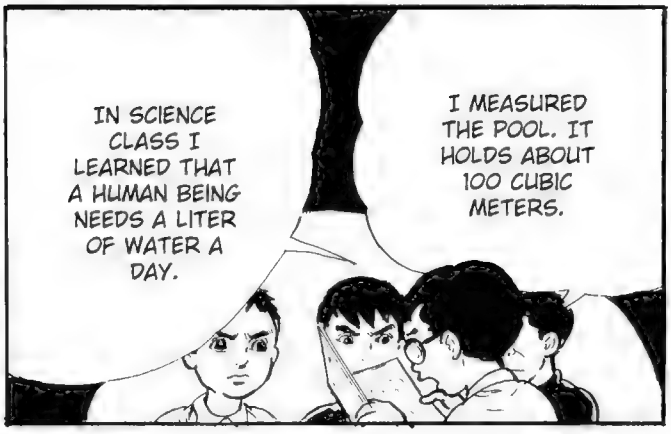
TWENTY DAYS?!


I HAD TSUBOTA, THE MATH GUY, CALCULATE HOW MUCH FOOD WE HAVE LEFT. IT WON'T LAST LONGER THAN 20 DAYS!

WHAT ABOUT WATER? HOW MUCH WATER DO WE HAVE LEFT?

IS THAT HOW MUCH TIME WE HAVE LEFT...?

SO IT'LL LAST 100 DAYS. UNLESS THE WATER EVAPORATES...


IN SCIENCE CLASS I LEARNED THAT A HUMAN BEING NEEDS A LITER OF WATER A DAY.
I MEASURED THE POOL. IT HOLDS ABOUT 100 CUBIC METERS.

THEN AFTER THAT...
IT DOESN'T MATTER. EVEN IF WE HAVE WATER, WE WON'T LAST MORE THAN 10 DAYS WITHOUT FOOD...

BUT I'M NOT REALLY SURE HOW TO CALCULATE THAT...

WE HAVE SWEET POTATOES, POTATOES, CARROTS, WHEAT AND EVEN RICE! IT'S ALL IN THE SCHOOL GARDEN!

LOOK! HERE'S A LIST OF ALL THE EDIBLE PLANTS IN THE SCHOOL!

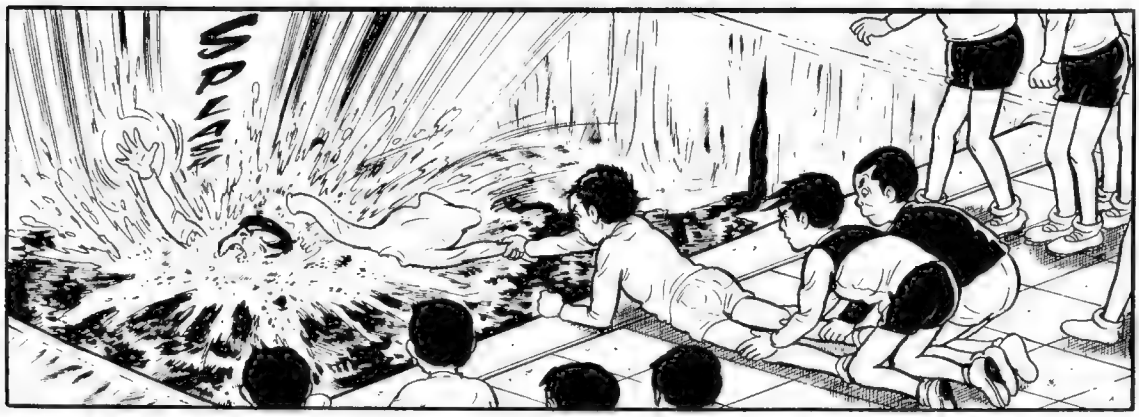
HOLD ON! I GOT MORE IDEAS!

WHAT'LL WE DO...?
WHAT'LL WE DO AFTER THAT!?

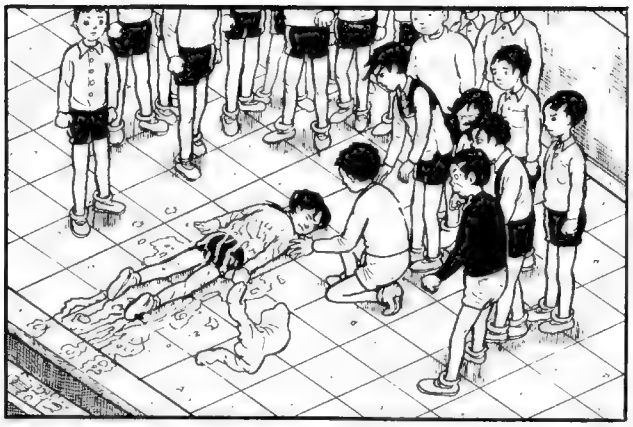
WE WON'T LAST A DAY ON THAT STUFF!

AND REMEMBER THE LITTLE BIRDS AND THE HEN? WE COULD EAT THEM...AND THEIR BIRDSEED!

MRMR
WAIT. WHAT'S GOING ON OUTSIDE?!
HE WENT TO THE SCIENCE ROOM TO FIGURE SOMETHING OUT.
HEY, WHERE DID GAMO GO?
WHAT THE...?!
MRMR
IT'S BY THE POOL!
I'M GOING TO CHECK IT OUT!
SPLASH
SPLASH

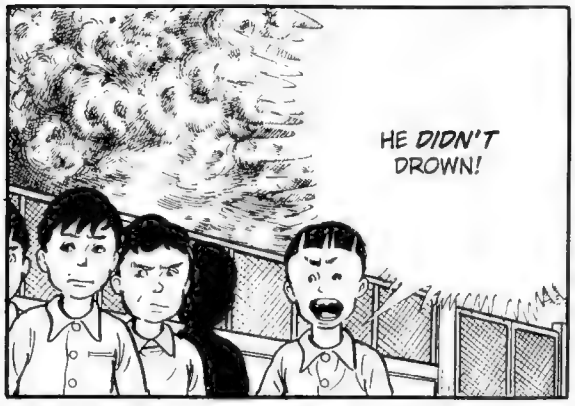

SPLASH

QUICK, GRAB ON!



SPLASH...

IT'S HASHIMOTO FROM SIXTH GRADE, CLASS ONE!

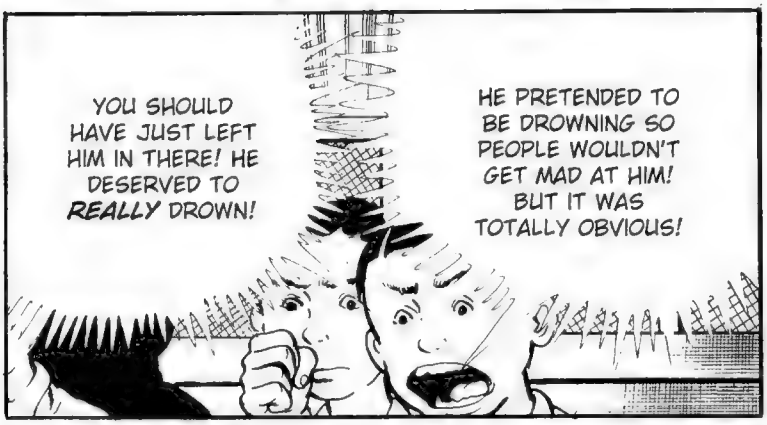

HE *DIDN'T* DROWN!

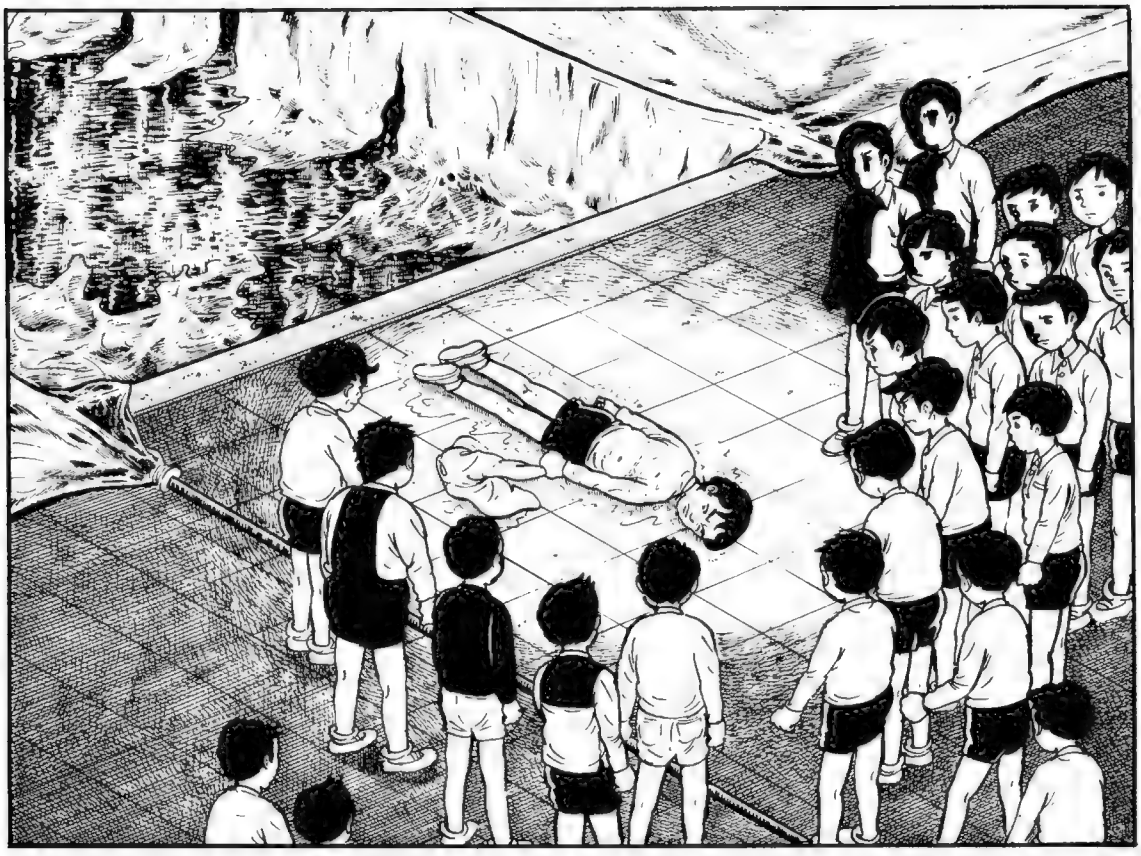
HOW COULD HE HAVE DROWNED? HE'S A GOOD SWIMMER!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
HE'S JUST *PRETENDING!*

WHAT?!

WE YELLED AT HIM AND HE JUMPED IN THE POOL!
WE SAW HIM TRYING TO DRINK THE WATER!


YOU SHOULD HAVE JUST LEFT HIM IN THERE! HE DESERVED TO *REALLY* DROWN!
HE PRETENDED TO BE DROWNING SO PEOPLE WOULDN'T GET MAD AT HIM! BUT IT WAS TOTALLY OBVIOUS!

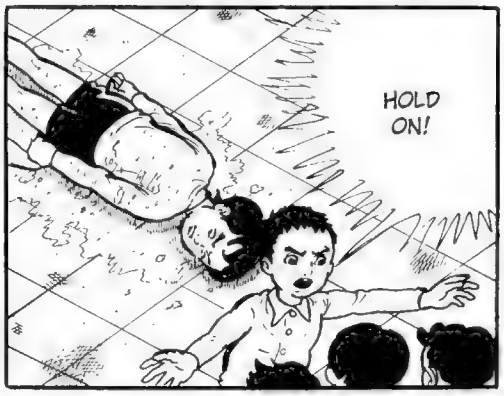


THAT WATER BELONGS TO *ALL* OF US!

WATCH! HE'LL GET UP AND START RUNNING!

STOP FAKING! WAKE UP! LET'S JUST KICK HIM!

URGH...!

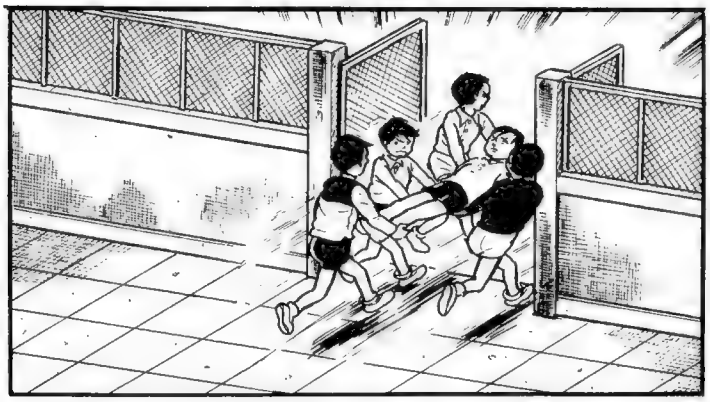

HOLD ON!

BE QUIET!

LOOK! NOW HE'S PRETENDING TO CRY!

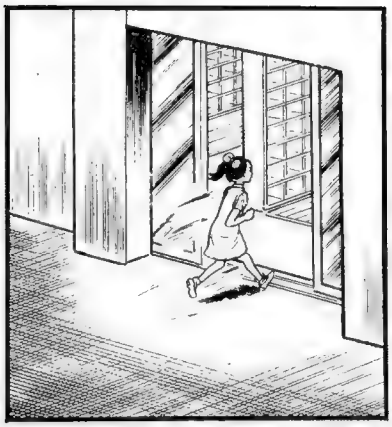
WHAT?!
HE'S NOT PRETENDING! HE'S GOT A FEVER!

WE HAVE TO MAKE HIM THROW UP THE WATER AND THEN TAKE HIM TO THE FIRST-AID ROOM!



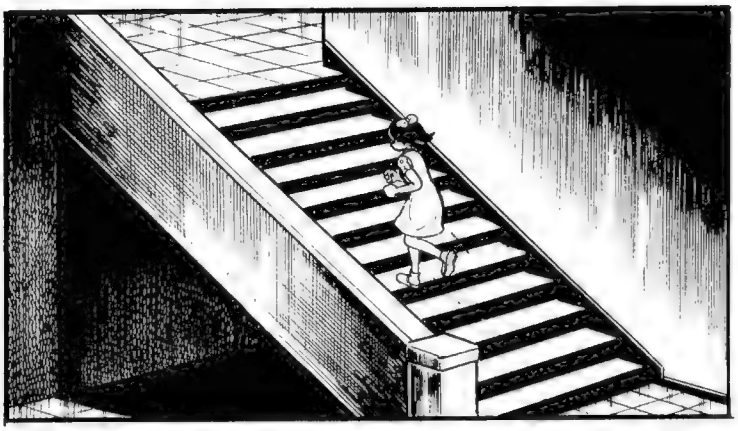
GLKK!

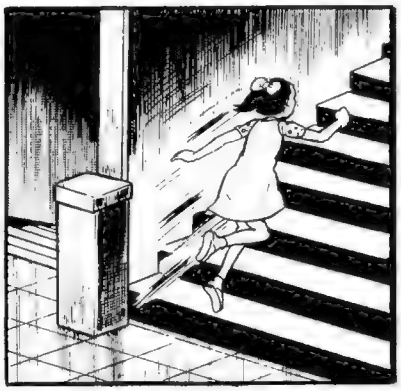
SAKI, THIS GUY'S SICK! DOES ANYONE KNOW ABOUT MEDICINE?
OH...!



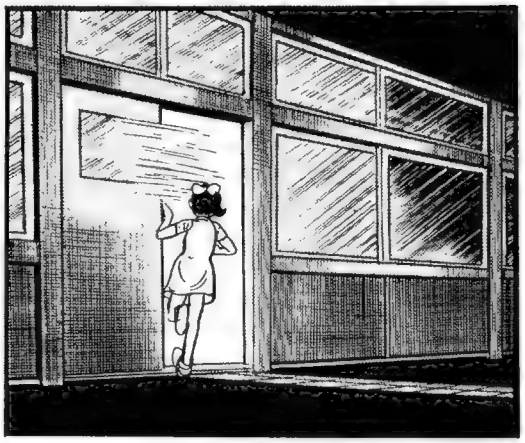
HOLD ON! I'LL GO GET HIM!

I'M PRETTY SURE YANASE'S DAD IS A DOCTOR!





YANASE!



THERE YOU ARE! YOU HAVE TO COME WITH ME!
WHAT IS IT!?

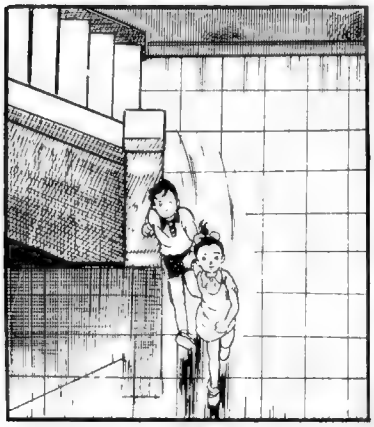
NOT ANOTHER AWFUL THING...!
WHAT IS IT!?

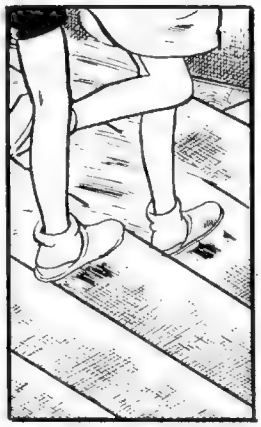
SO YOU MUST KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT DISEASES, RIGHT?

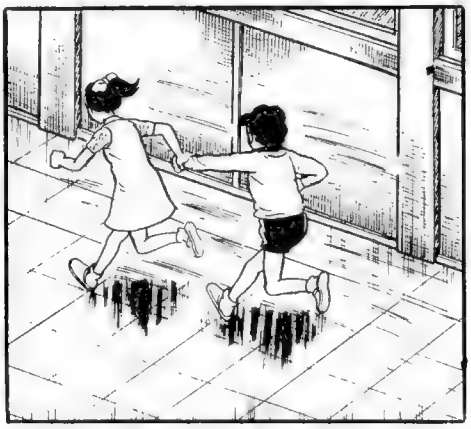
YOU SAID YOU WANTED TO BE A DOCTOR WHEN YOU GROW UP!

C'MON! WE NEED YOU ANYWAY!

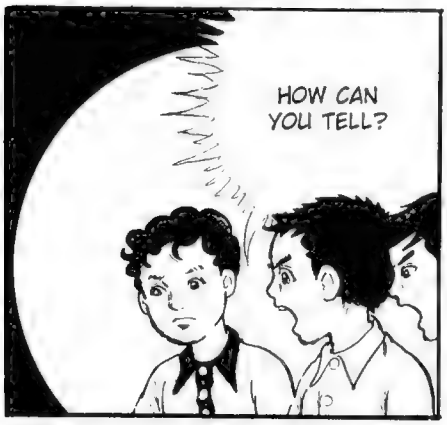
BUT I'M ONLY A KID...I DON'T KNOW MUCH!







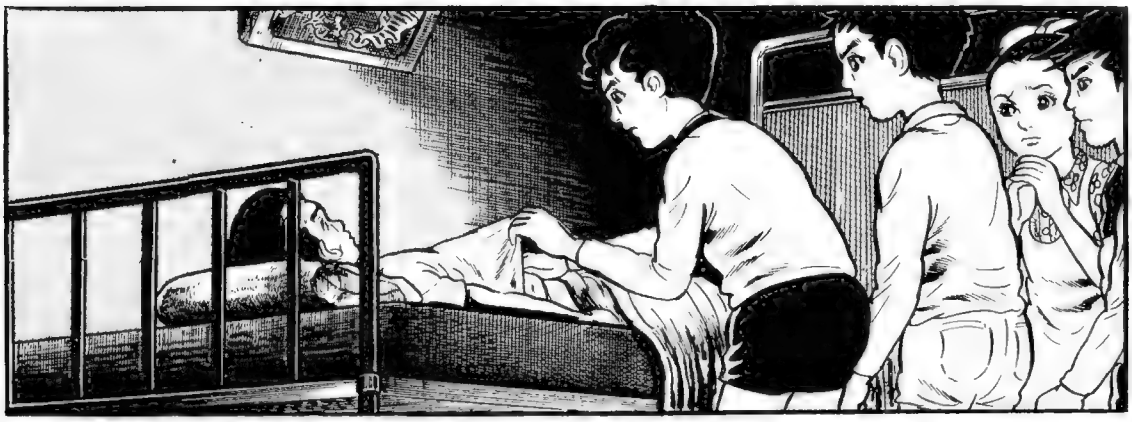
*SIGN=FIRST-AID ROOM



YOU'RE RIGHT! HE IS YELLOW...!
IT'S BECAUSE HIS FACE IS YELLOW.

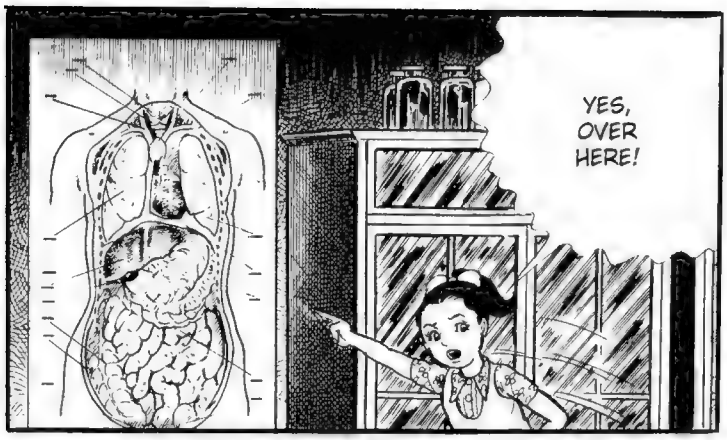
NNHH...
UNHH...

THAT COULD BE A SIGN HIS LIVER'S BAD. BUT IT COULD MEAN OTHER THINGS, TOO. I-I'D HAVE TO MAKE SURE...

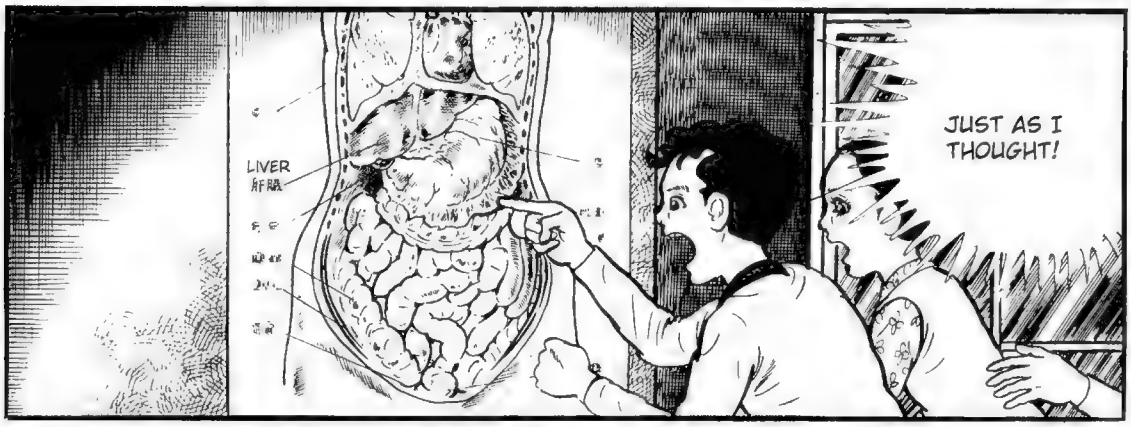


WH-WHAT IS IT!?

OH!


YES, OVER HERE!

DO WE HAVE AN ANATOMY CHART?


LIVER
JUST AS I THOUGHT!

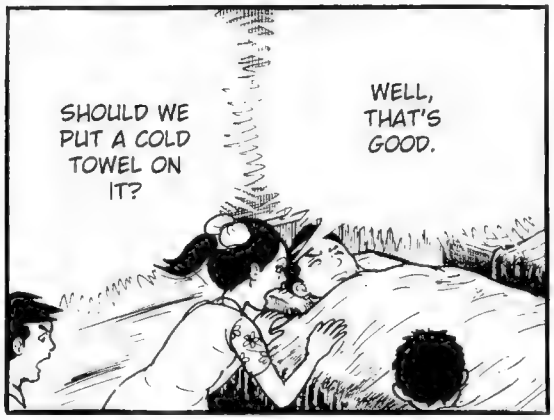
HIS LIVER'S ALL SWOLLEN UP!

UGGH...
NGGH...

...BUT I THINK IT'S BECAUSE OF HIS LIVER.
W-WELL, I'M STILL NOT TOTALLY SURE...

WHAT A RELIEF! I THOUGHT IT WAS HIS HEART OR BRAIN!

NO! THAT WON'T BE ENOUGH! YOU SEE...


SHOULD WE PUT A COLD TOWEL ON IT?
WELL, THAT'S GOOD.

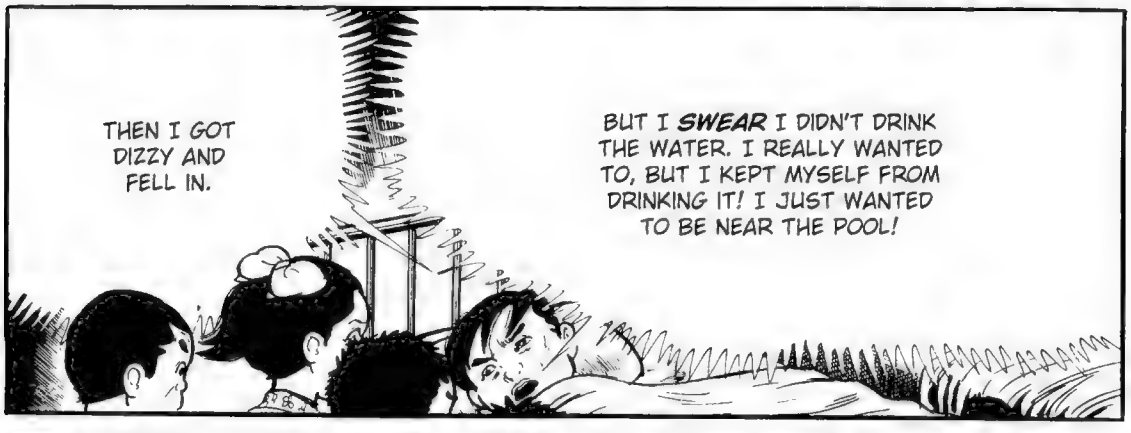
HASHIMOTO, ARE YOU AWAKE!?

UNNH...

T-TAKAMATSU! I'M SORRY!

DON'T WORRY. IT'S JUST YOUR LIVER. YOU JUST NEED SOME REST.

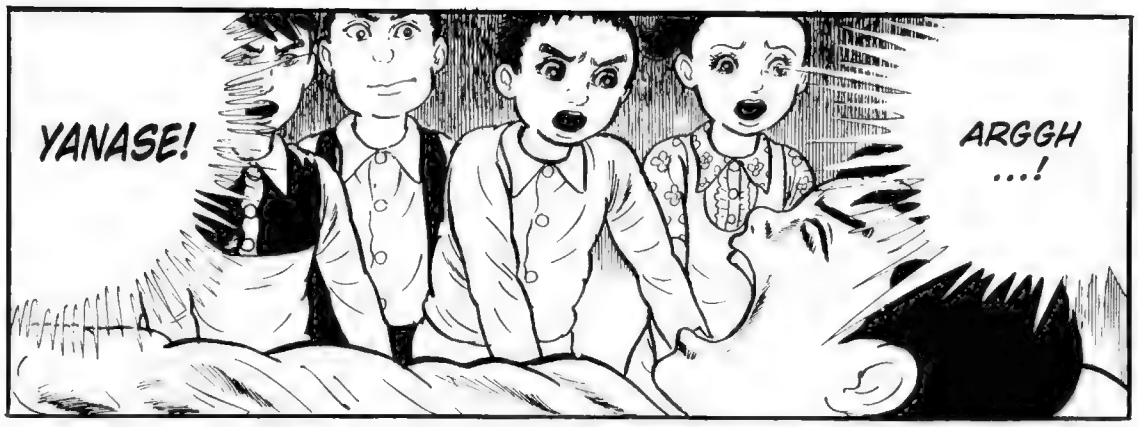
I WAS SO THIRSTY I BROKE THE RULES AND WENT TO THE POOL!


THEN I GOT DIZZY AND FELL IN.
BUT I SWEAR I DIDN'T DRINK THE WATER. I REALLY WANTED TO, BUT I KEPT MYSELF FROM DRINKING IT! I JUST WANTED TO BE NEAR THE POOL!

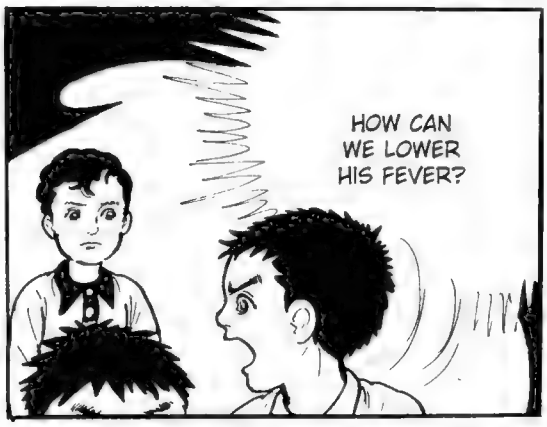
EVERYONE THINKS I WAS JUST PRETENDING TO DROWN TO STEAL WATER! BUT I WASN'T! REALLY!

I DRANK EVERYONE'S WATER!
I HURT SO BAD I ENDED UP DRINKING THE WATER.

IT'S OKAY, HASHIMOTO. EVERYONE KNOWS YOU DIDN'T MEAN IT!
ONCE YOU FEEL BETTER, YOU CAN PROVE THAT THEY WERE--
IT'S ALL RIGHT!
I HOPE SO. I REALLY HOPE SO.
HASHIMOTO!
I-IT HURTS!

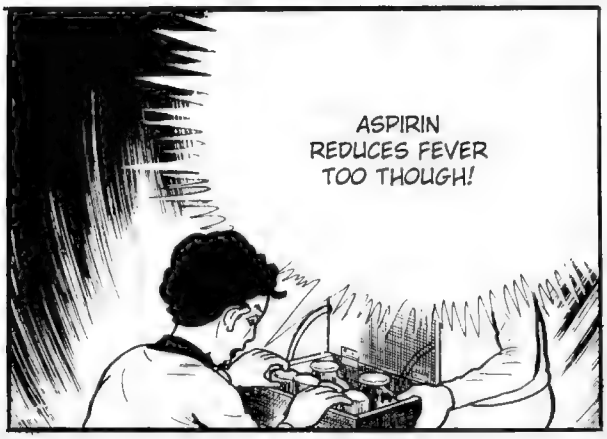

YANASE!
ARGGH ...!

WE NEED ANTIBIOTICS!


HOW CAN WE LOWER HIS FEVER?

HOW ABOUT SOME ASPIRIN?

JUST BASIC STUFF LIKE CREAMS FOR FIRST AID!
DAMN! WE DON'T HAVE THAT KIND OF MEDICINE!


ASPIRIN REDUCES FEVER TOO THOUGH!

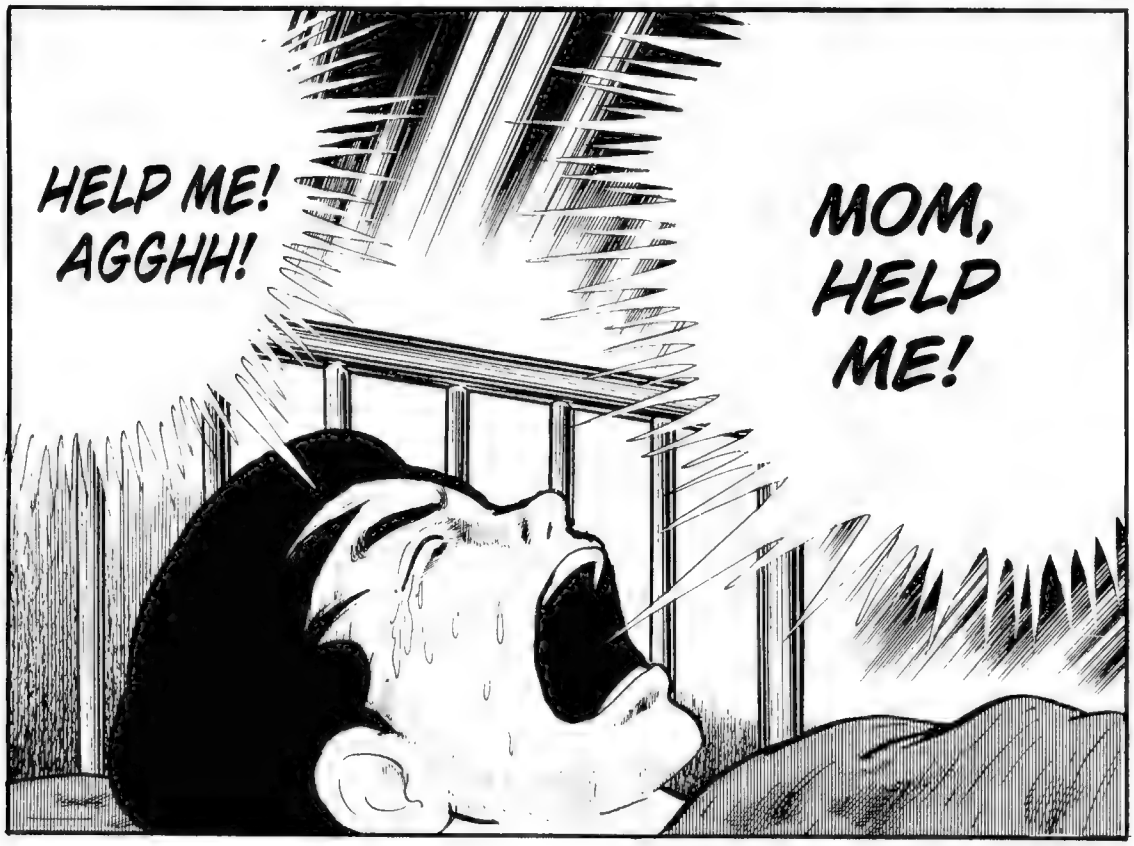
BUT THAT'S ONLY FOR COLDS, RIGHT!?
YES, WE HAVE ASPIRIN...

GULP

UNGGH ...
HERE, HASHIMOTO! TAKE ONE OF THESE!

WHAT DID I DO TO DESERVE THIS? I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING WRONG.

I CAN'T TAKE THIS ANYMORE. I WANT TO GO HOME!


HELP ME! AGGHH!
MOM, HELP ME!

WH-WHAT DO WE DO NOW!? IF THE REST OF THE SCHOOL HEARS HIM CRYING, THEY'LL PANIC!

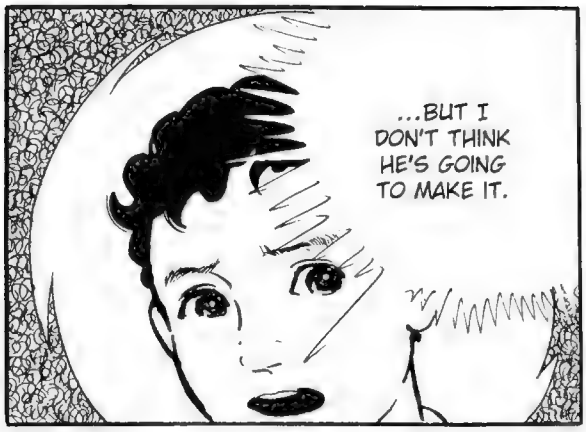
PLEASE BE QUIET! YOU'RE GOING TO BE OKAY!

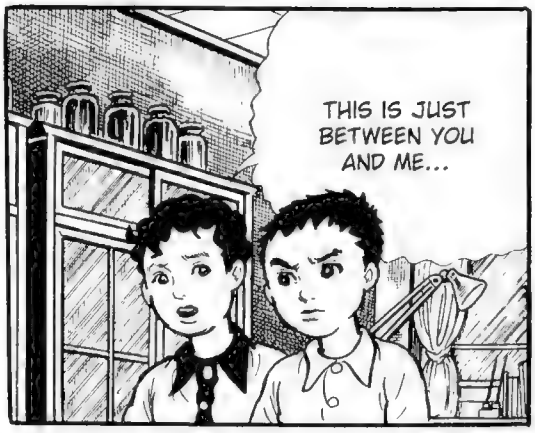
H-HASHIMOTO! CALM DOWN!
UNGH! AGGH!

SHO, I NEED TO TALK TO YOU...

GOT IT. COME ON, HASHIMOTO!

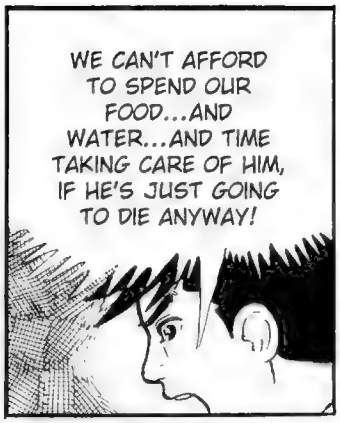
UM...RUBBING HIS BACK MIGHT HELP.


...BUT I DON'T THINK HE'S GOING TO MAKE IT.


THIS IS JUST BETWEEN YOU AND ME...

THE LIVER'S A STRONG ORGAN. BUT ONCE IT GOES BAD, IT DOESN'T HEAL EASILY. YOU CAN MAKE ARTIFICIAL HEARTS OR LUNGS, BUT YOU CAN'T MAKE AN ARTIFICIAL LIVER.
WHAT!?
QUIET, OTOMO!
YANASE! IS THAT TRUE?!
IT'S SO SWOLLEN UP...IT'S SCARY...I'M NOT SURE EVEN A DOCTOR COULD SAVE HIM NOW...
SO WHAT ARE WE SUPPOSED TO DO? WAIT AROUND TILL HE DIES?
IT'S ALL RIGHT! IT'S OKAY!
OWWW! AGGGH! IT HURTS!
YOU HEARD WHAT YANASE SAID! NO MATTER HOW HARD WE WORK, WE CAN'T SAVE HIM!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
IF WE DO THAT, WE'RE KILLING OURSELVES TOO!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?


WE CAN'T AFFORD TO SPEND OUR FOOD...AND WATER...AND TIME TAKING CARE OF HIM, IF HE'S JUST GOING TO DIE ANYWAY!

BESIDES, HE'S IN UNBEARABLE PAIN!

I MEAN WE SHOULD KILL HIM!

I MEAN...

WHAT !?

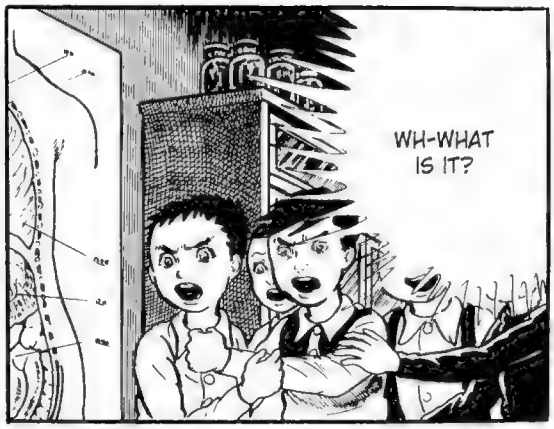
THAT'S CRAZY!
NGGGG-AGGHH!
HELP! HELP! GIVE ME SOME DRUGS OR SOMETHING!
OWW! OWW! OH MY GOD!
THIS IS WHAT'S CRAZY!
LISTEN TO HIM SCREAM! HOW LONG IS IT GOING TO TAKE HIM TO DIE IF WE DON'T DO SOMETHING?
AAGGHH

I CAN'T STAND HEARING HIM! EVERYONE THINKS THE SAME THING!
WHY DO WE HAVE TO PUT UP WITH THIS?!

BAMM BAMM
WHY! WHY!?

WAIT, EVERYBODY! LISTEN TO ME!
SLAM

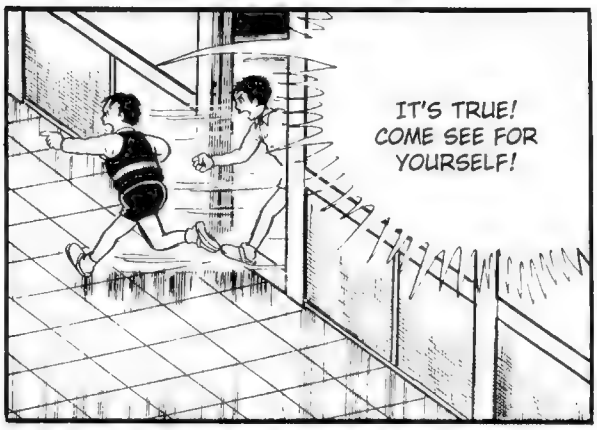
OTOMO!
I CAN'T TAKE THIS ANYMORE! I'M LEAVING!


WH-WHAT IS IT?

I GOT GREAT NEWS! COME HERE! EVERYONE'S WAITING!

WE GOT PEACHES!

WHAT?!


IT'S TRUE! COME SEE FOR YOURSELF!

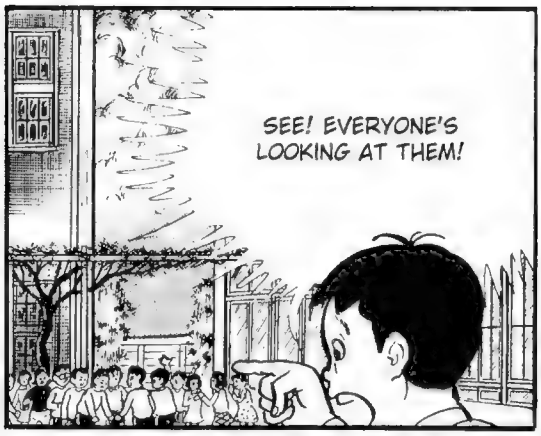
THERE AREN'T ANY PEACHES IN THE SCHOOL!
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!

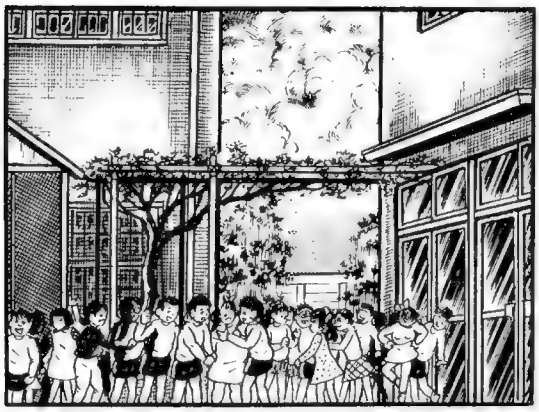
WHERE ARE THEY?

UNGCH-

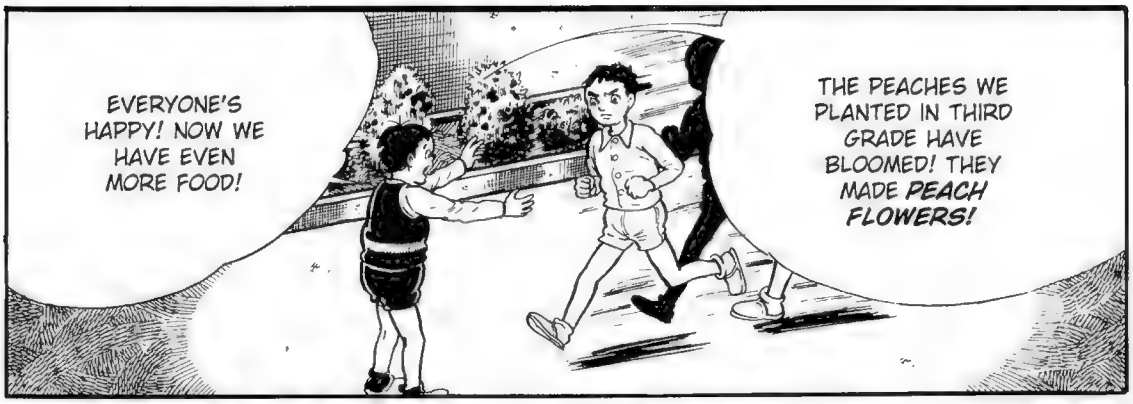
GLRRFF!

KOFF GLFF!


SEE! EVERYONE'S LOOKING AT THEM!



OVER HERE!
WHERE ARE THE PEACHES!?

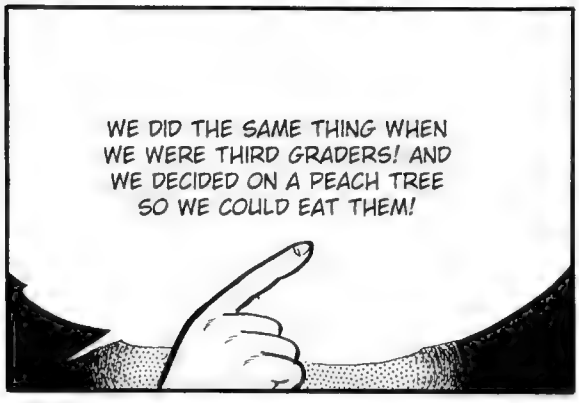

EVERYONE'S HAPPY! NOW WE HAVE EVEN MORE FOOD!
THE PEACHES WE PLANTED IN THIRD GRADE HAVE BLOOMED! THEY MADE *PEACH FLOWERS!*

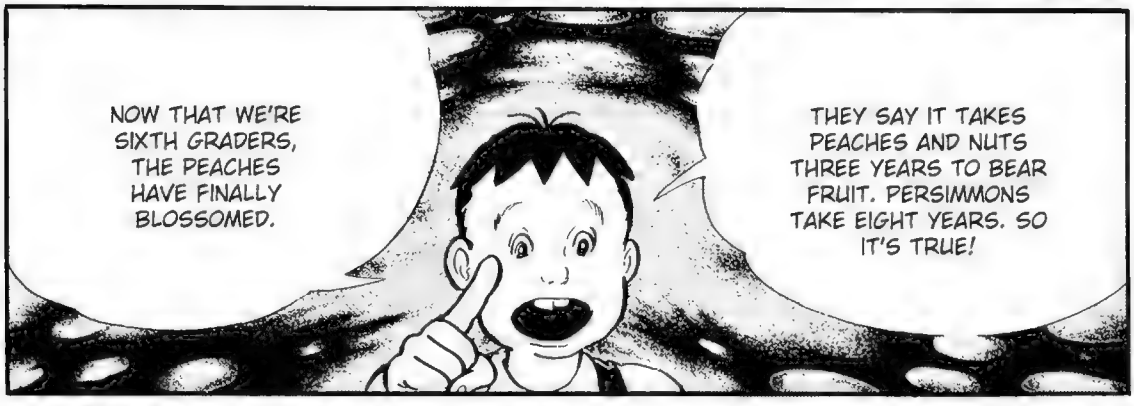
SO THERE'S NO FRUIT? JUST FLOWERS?!

WHAT!?

YOU REMEMBER HOW LAST YEAR'S SIXTH GRADERS HAD A PROJECT WHERE THEY PLANTED A TREE?

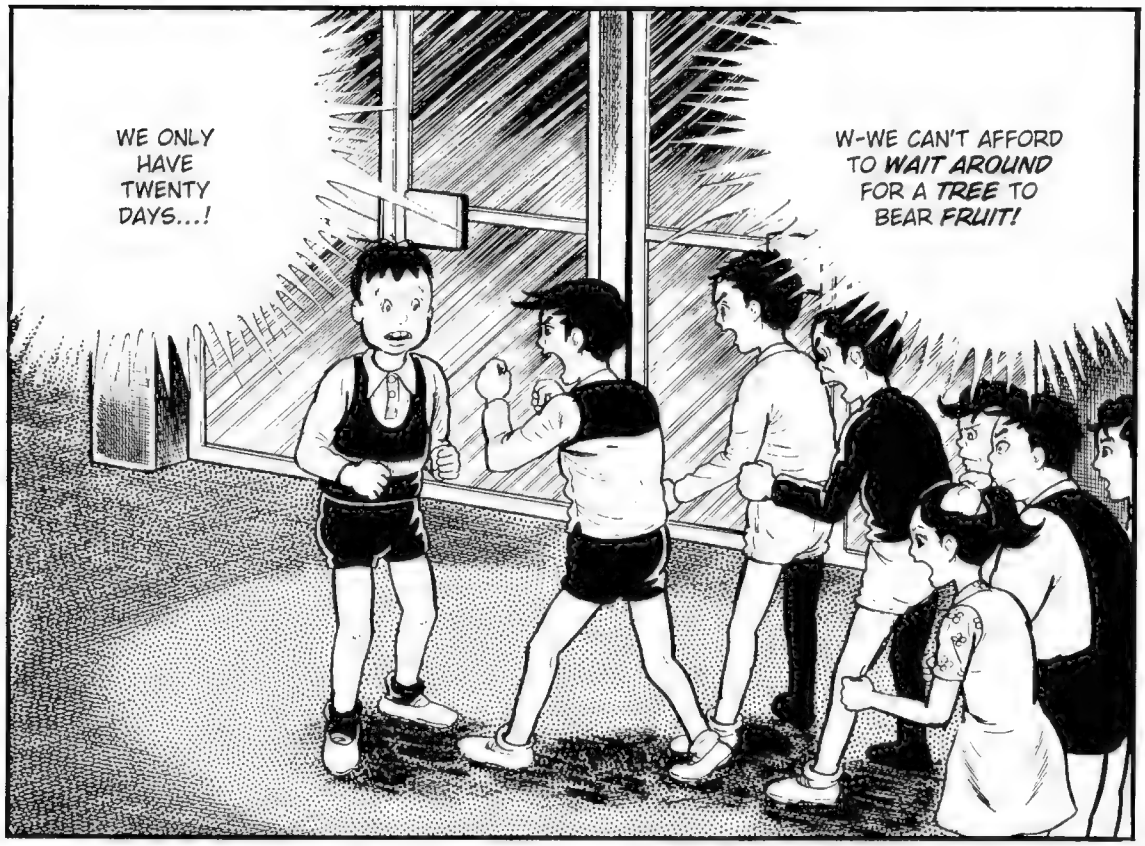
YEAH... WHAT'S WRONG?


WE DID THE SAME THING WHEN WE WERE THIRD GRADERS! AND WE DECIDED ON A PEACH TREE SO WE COULD EAT THEM!


NOW THAT WE'RE SIXTH GRADERS, THE PEACHES HAVE FINALLY BLOSSOMED.
THEY SAY IT TAKES PEACHES AND NUTS THREE YEARS TO BEAR FRUIT. PERSIMMONS TAKE EIGHT YEARS. SO IT'S TRUE!

Y-YOU *IDIOT!*

SO WHEN THEY BEAR FRUIT, WE CAN EAT THEM!

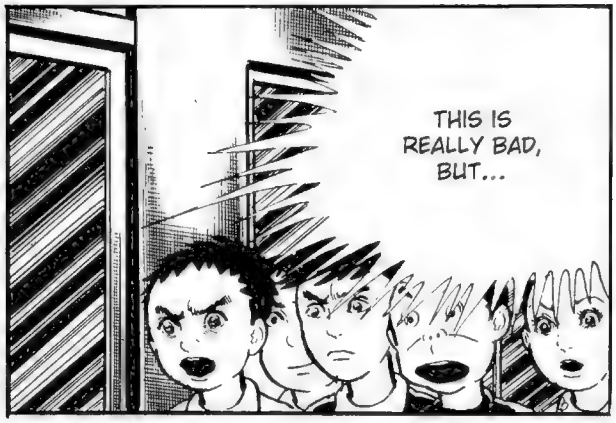

WE ONLY HAVE TWENTY DAYS...!
W-WE CAN'T AFFORD TO WAIT AROUND FOR A TREE TO BEAR FRUIT!

B-BUT ...!
BE QUIET! DON'T TELL HIM!

SHH, OTOMO!

STOP FIGHTING!
WAIT A MINUTE, EVERYONE!

I JUST THOUGHT OF SOMETHING AWFUL!


THIS IS REALLY BAD, BUT...

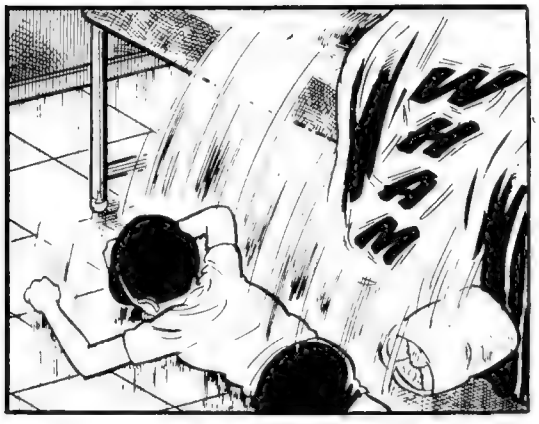
WH-WHAT IS IT!?

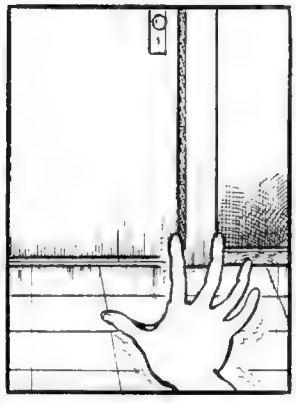
OUR PLANTS MIGHT NOT BEAR ANY FRUIT AT ALL!

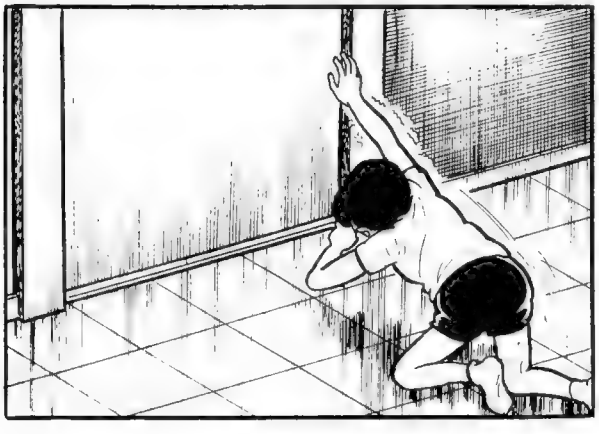
WHAT? WHY?!

GGH...
GGH...

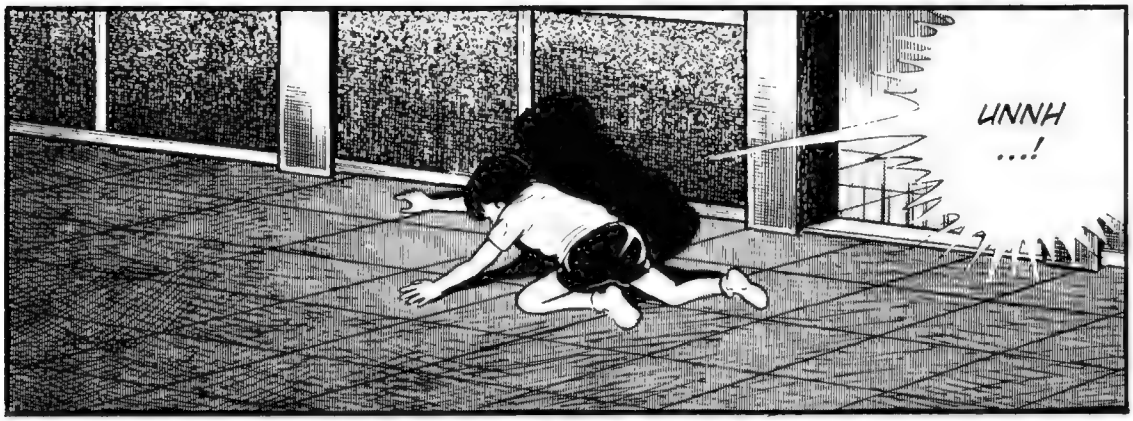
UNNGH
...!

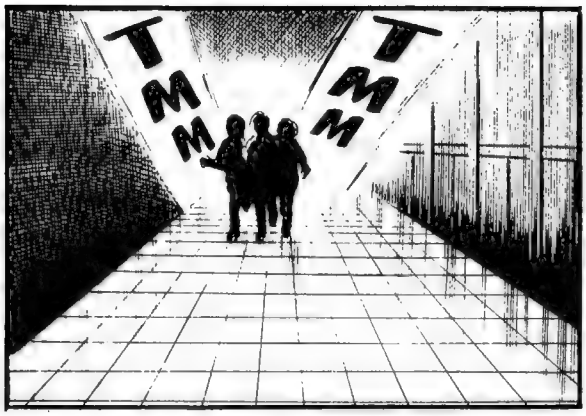

WHAM

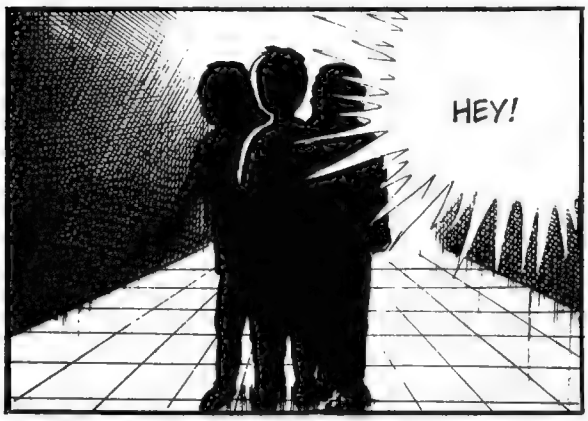


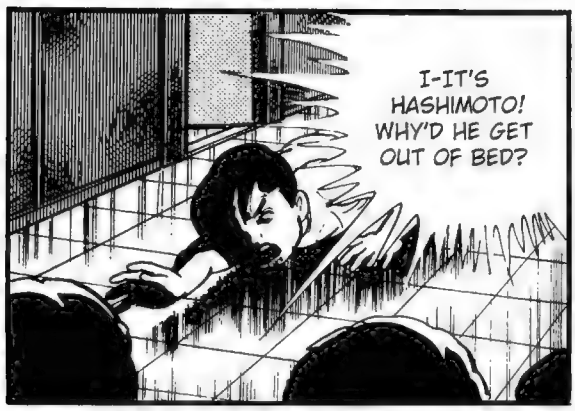


KREEK


UNNH
...!


TMM
TMM

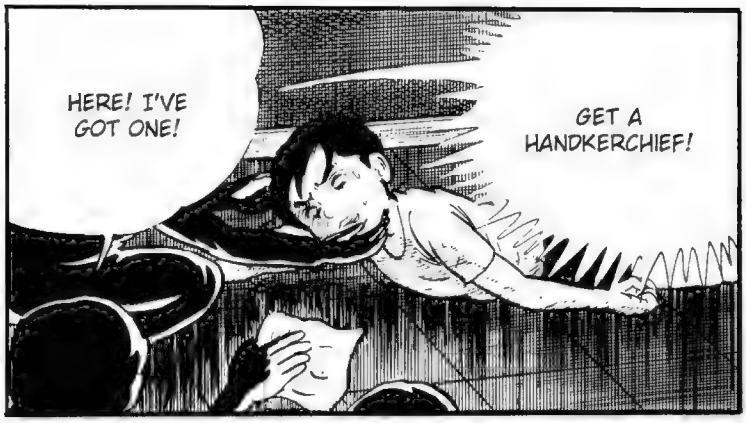

HEY!


I-IT'S HASHIMOTO! WHY'D HE GET OUT OF BED?

OWW...

AGGH...

UWGH


HERE! I'VE GOT ONE!
GET A HANDKERCHIEF!

HE'S COUGHING UP BLOOD!

YOU WANT TO GO TO THE BATHROOM?

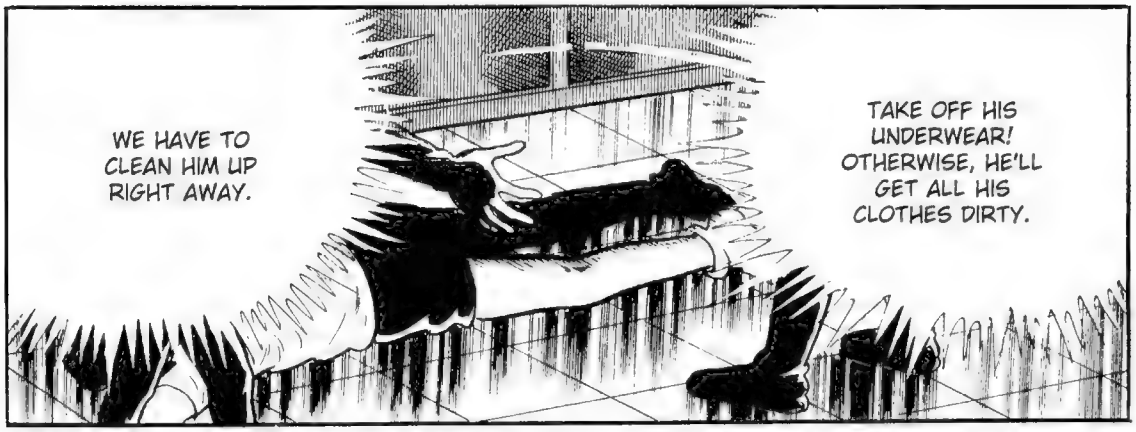
B-BATH-ROOM...

HASHIMOTO! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT!?

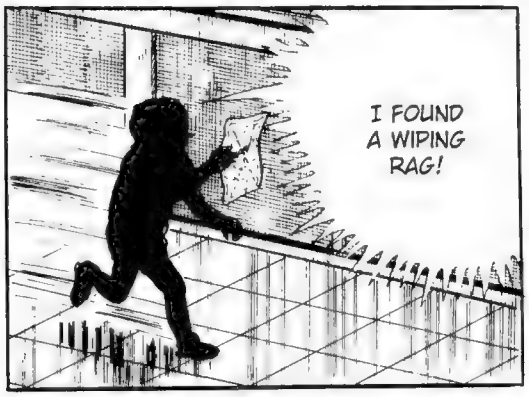
UCK! HE COULDN'T HOLD IT IN!
LOOK, HE'S GOT DIARRHEA!

WE HAVE TO CLEAN HIM UP!

WH-WHAT DO WE DO!?


WE HAVE TO CLEAN HIM UP RIGHT AWAY.
TAKE OFF HIS UNDERWEAR! OTHERWISE, HE'LL GET ALL HIS CLOTHES DIRTY.

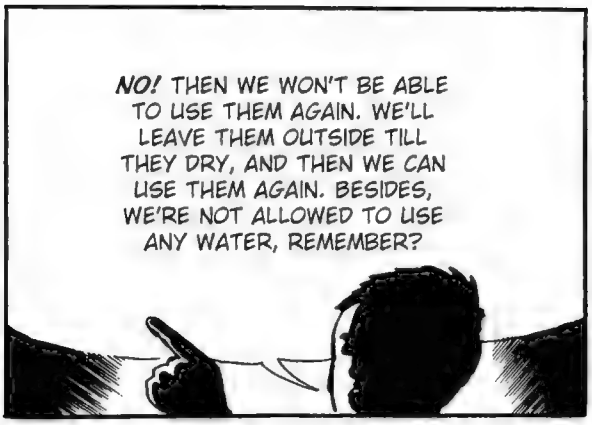
ALL RIGHT!
I KNOW IT'S GROSS BUT WE GOTTA DO IT! COME ON!


I FOUND A WIPING RAG!

A HANDKERCHIEF... ANYTHING!
WE NEED MORE TISSUES!

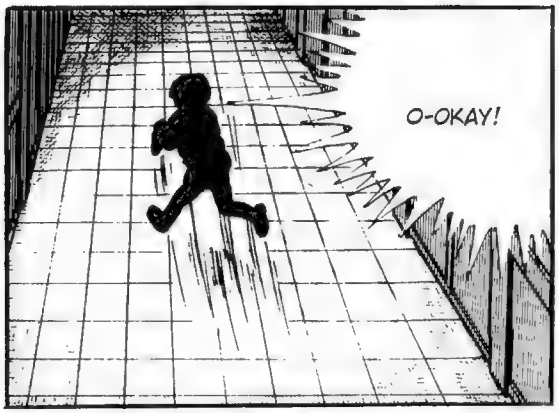
DON'T BE A WIMP!

EWW! I GOT SOME ON MY HAND!


NO! THEN WE WON'T BE ABLE TO USE THEM AGAIN. WE'LL LEAVE THEM OUTSIDE TILL THEY DRY, AND THEN WE CAN USE THEM AGAIN. BESIDES, WE'RE NOT ALLOWED TO USE ANY WATER, REMEMBER?

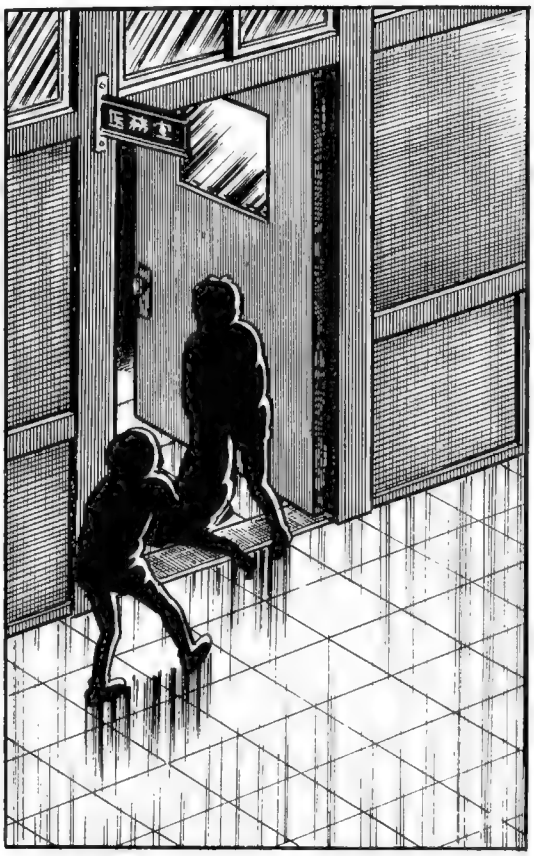
I'LL THROW IT ALL INTO THE TOILET.

HERE. GRAB HIS ARMS! WE'LL TAKE HIM BACK TO THE FIRST-AID ROOM!


O-OKAY!

NOBODY'S HERE! I THOUGHT TAKAMATSU WAS SUPPOSED TO BE HERE!

COME ON!


医務室

WE'LL SEND TAKAMATSU HERE WHEN WE FIND HIM!

IT'S ALL RIGHT, WE WON'T TELL ANYBODY YOU CRAPPED YOUR PANTS.

AGGGHH!

IT HURTS!

SLAM

HASHIMOTO'S SCREAMING!

AAGGHH

HE'S SO LOUD! AT LEAST EVERYONE'S OVER BY THE PEACH TREE. MAYBE THEY HAVEN'T HEARD HIM.

REMEMBER SCIENCE CLASS?
IN ORDER FOR FLOWERING PLANTS TO BEAR FRUIT, THE POLLEN HAS TO BE TRANSFERRED FROM THE STAMEN TO THE PISTIL!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, THE TREE WON'T BEAR FRUIT?
TAKAMATSU!
WELL, DO YOU REMEMBER HOW THAT HAPPENS?
Y-YEAH, SO...?
AND THERE'S NO WIND HERE AT ALL!
BUT THERE AREN'T ANY INSECTS LIKE THAT HERE!
S-SURE! BEES AND BUTTERFLIES! SOMETIMES THE WIND!

NOT JUST THE PEACH TREES... THE CUCUMBERS, TOMATOES, MORNING GLORIES AND VIOLETS!
THE PLANTS WON'T BEAR FRUIT UNLESS WE DO THAT PROCESS ARTIFICIALLY!

THEN WE'LL HAVE TO MOVE THE POLLEN OURSELVES.
TH-THAT'S AWFUL!

THEY'LL ALL DIE IF WE LEAVE THEM ALONE!

WE HAVE TO DO OUR BEST TO SURVIVE!

STOP IT! WE CAN'T THINK ABOUT DYING! WE HAVE TO DO WHATEVER WE CAN TO LIVE!

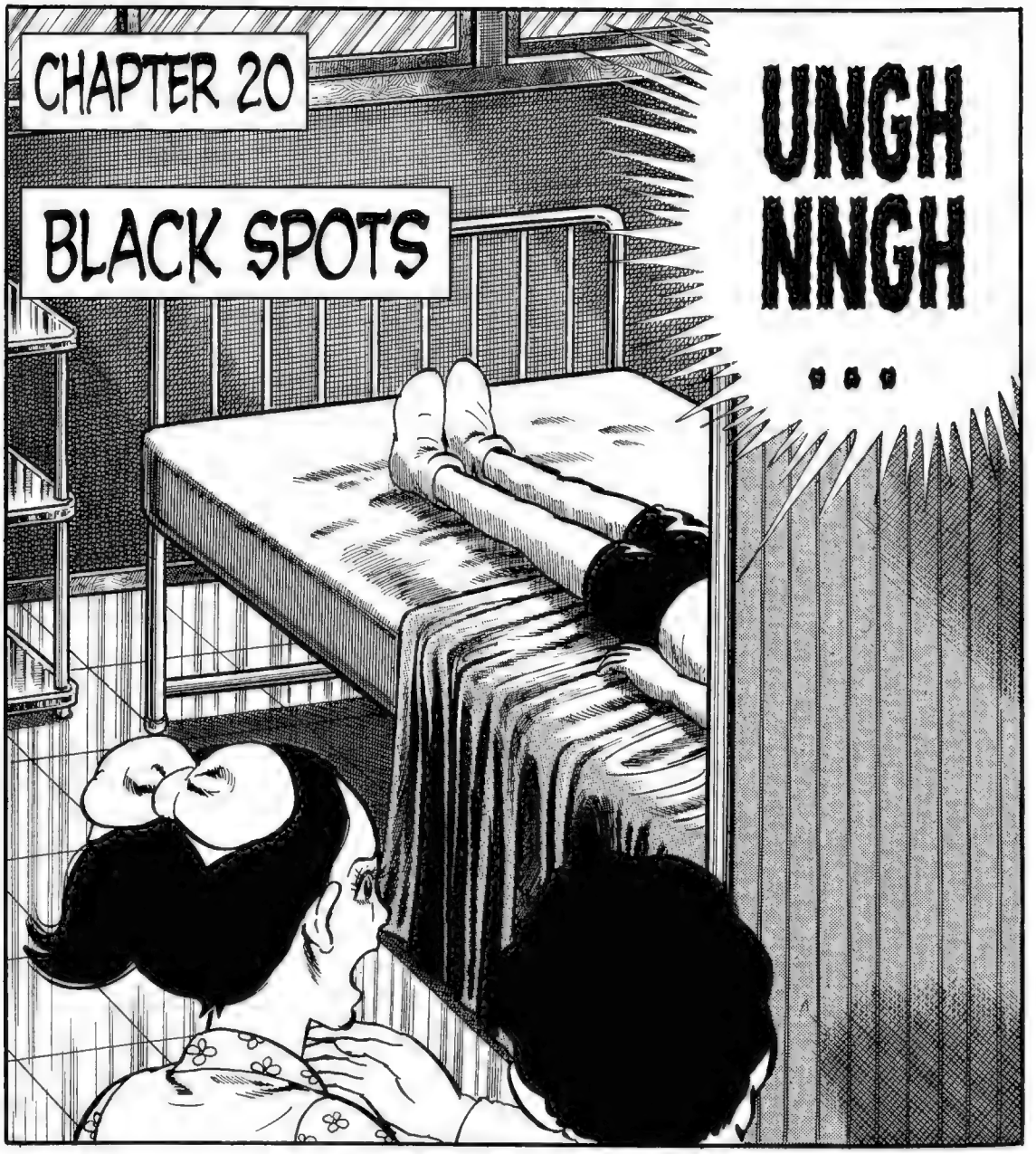
IT WON'T MATTER! WE ONLY HAVE TWENTY DAYS...!

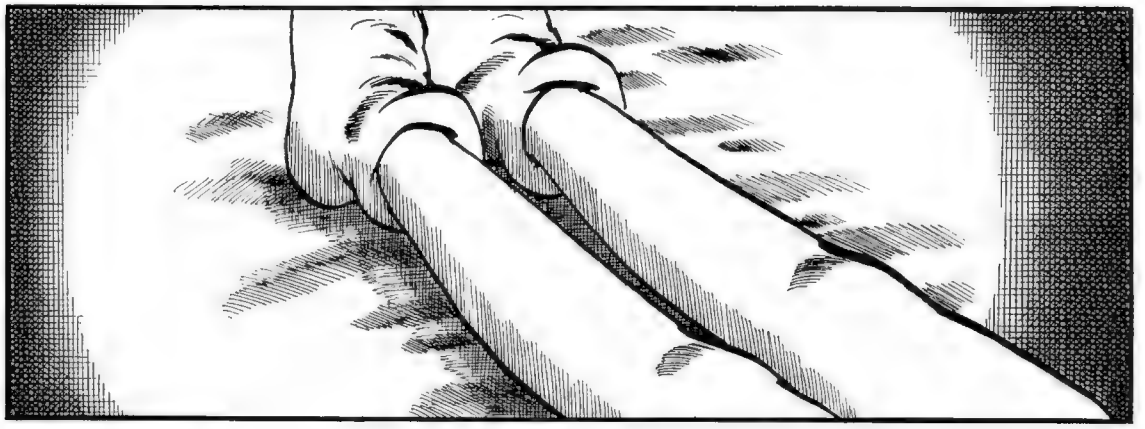
GOOD. NOW WE'LL WORK ON THE PLANTS.

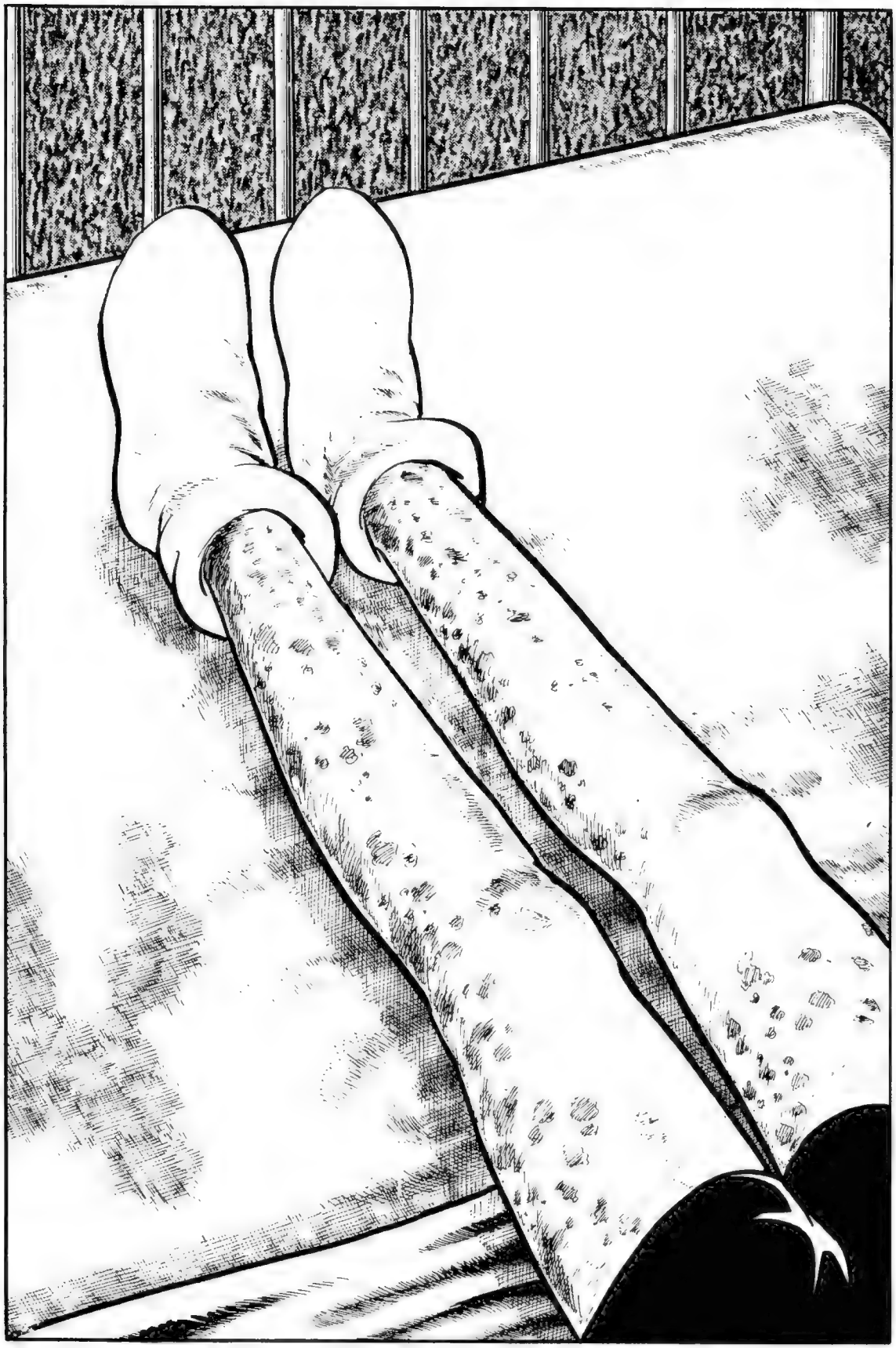
OKAY!

YANASE! YOU AND SAKI GO TAKE CARE OF HASHIMOTO!

OOOH...
KREEK
POOR HASHIMOTO ...
GASP!
HASHIMOTO! WE'RE BACK!
URGGH ...
DON'T GO ANY CLOSER!
STOP!


CHAPTER 20
BLACK SPOTS
UNGH
NNGH
...





WHAT ARE THOSE BLACK SPOTS!?
HUH?!

J-JUST GET OUT! NOW!

WHAT!?
I-I WAS WRONG! I MISDIAGNOSED HIM!

IT MIGHT BE THE PLAGUE!

SLAM

THE PLAGUE !?

THE BLACK PLAGUE?!
YOU MEAN THAT ANCIENT DISEASE THAT KILLED OFF HALF THE POPULATION OF EUROPE...?!

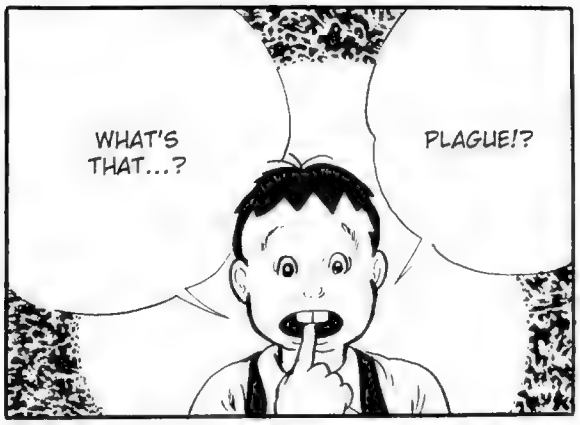
I THOUGHT HIS LIVER WAS SWOLLEN, BUT IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN HIS GLANDS!

OTHER PEOPLE?! LIKE WHO?!
IT MIGHT HAVE ALREADY SPREAD TO OTHER PEOPLE!

LOOK AT THOSE DARK SPOTS ON HIS SKIN!

DON'T LET THEM GET CLOSE TO ANYONE ELSE IN THE SCHOOL!
WE HAVE TO STOP TAKAMATSU AND THE OTHERS!
LIKE US!
IF THEY'RE INFECTED IT'LL SPREAD FURTHER!
...TO TAKE CARE OF THE PEACH FLOWERS...!
THEY MIGHT ALREADY HAVE GONE...
SHO!

YEAH. WE'RE COMING UP WITH A PLAN.
OH GOOD, YOU'RE STILL HERE!
OH, THANK GOD!
WH-WHAT IS IT, SAKI!?
SPOTS!? WHAT DO YOU MEAN!?
H-HE HAD SPOTS...


WHAT'S THAT...?
PLAGUE!?

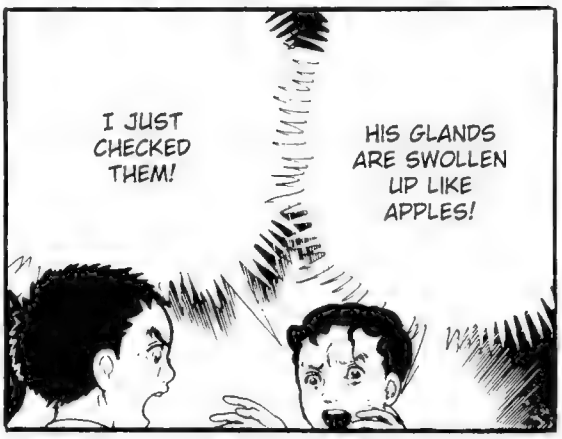
THE PLAGUE ?!

THE PLAGUE WAS WIPED OUT IN JAPAN A LONG TIME AGO!
TH-THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE! MY OLDER BROTHER IS IN COLLEGE, AND HE TOLD ME ALL ABOUT IT!

YANASE!
IT'S NO MISTAKE!

HOW COULD IT COME BACK ALL OF A SUDDEN? IT MUST BE SOME MISTAKE!

IT'LL KILL US BEFORE WE EVEN STARVE TO DEATH!


I JUST CHECKED THEM!
HIS GLANDS ARE SWOLLEN UP LIKE APPLES!

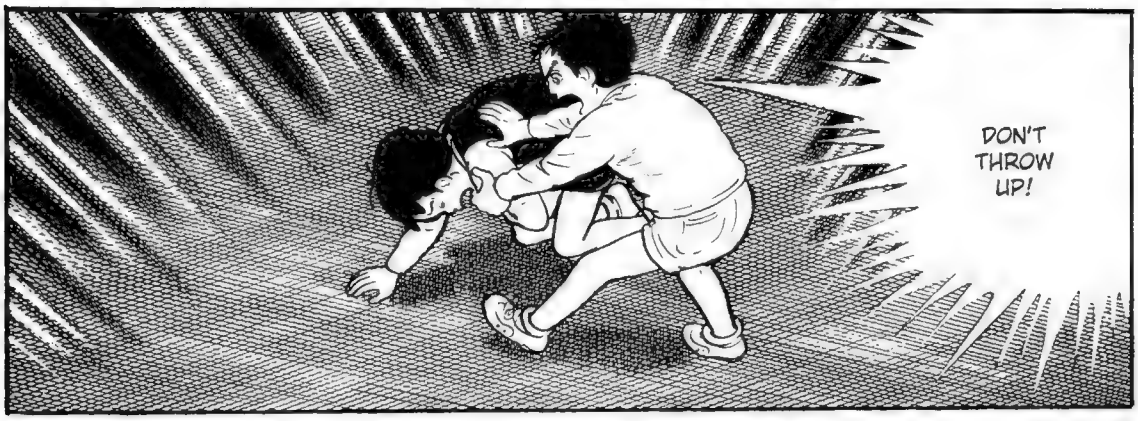
HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO BREAK OUT!?
WHAT!?
JUST A DAY?!
A DAY AFTER YOU'RE INFECTED!
SWOLLEN GLANDS AND DIARRHEA ...
WE'LL GET A HIGH FEVER...
IN ONE DAY WE'LL PROBABLY ALL BE AS SICK AS HASHIMOTO!
IT ONLY TAKES A FEW DAYS TO DIE...

WE DON'T KNOW THAT FOR SURE!
B-BUT HASHIMOTO DIDN'T HAVE DIARRHEA.

WHAT ...?
WHAT IF HE HAD DIARRHEA WHEN HE FELL INTO THE POOL? IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN WASHED AWAY WHEN WE FOUND HIM!

YOSHIDA!

UGGH!


DON'T THROW UP!

YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO WASTE YOUR FOOD!

LISTEN UP, EVERYONE!

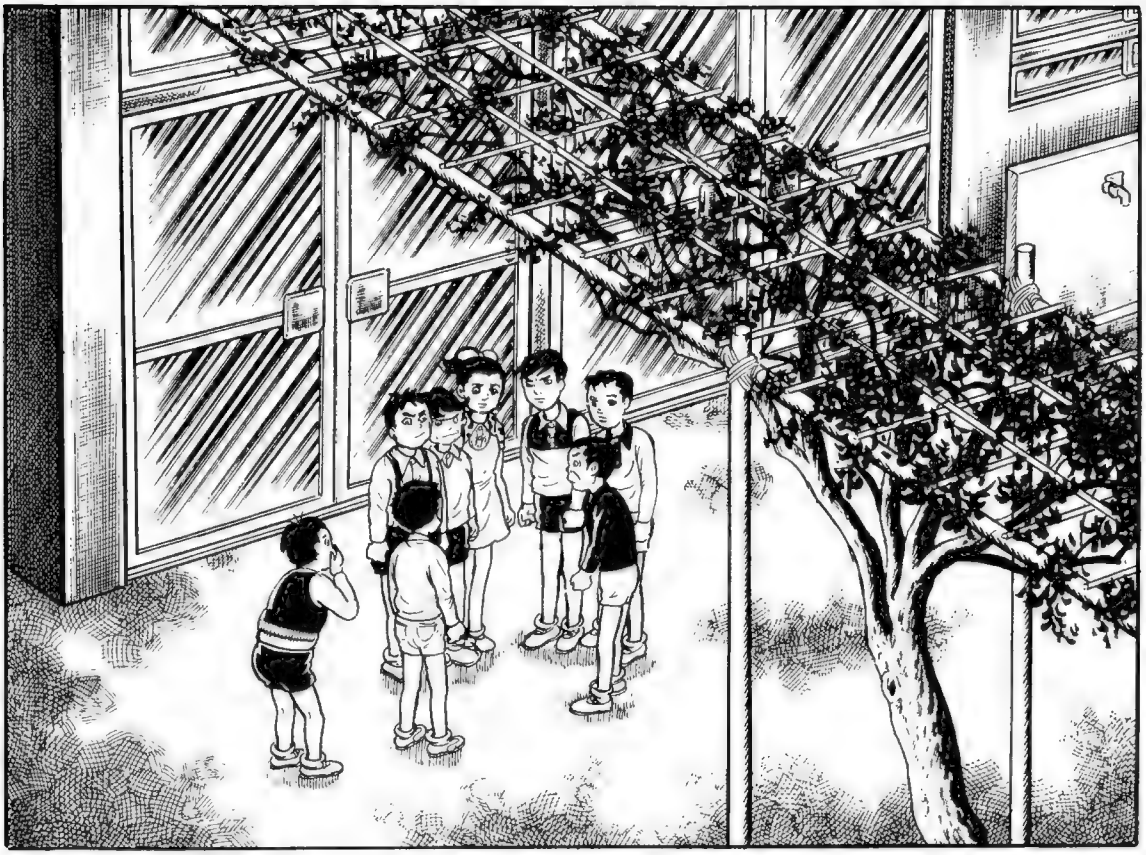
HOLD IT DOWN!

HASHIMOTO MIGHT HAVE CONTAMINATED THE WATER WHEN HE FELL INTO THE POOL!

TAKAMATSU'S RIGHT! NOT ONLY THAT, ANYONE WHO'S BEEN NEAR HASHIMOTO MIGHT BE INFECTED!

ARE YOU SAYING WE CAN'T DRINK THE WATER EITHER?!

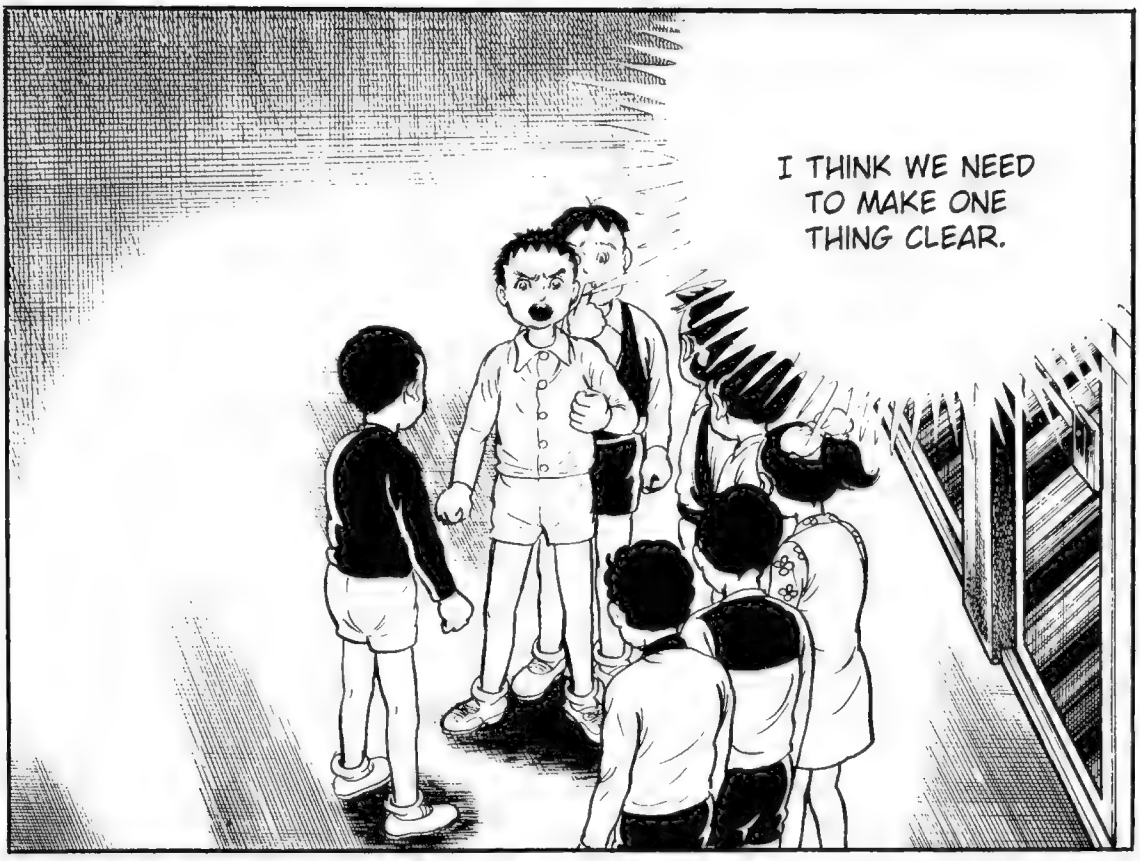
THAT'S RIGHT... *US!*



TH-THERE'S NO PROOF IT'S THE PLAGUE!

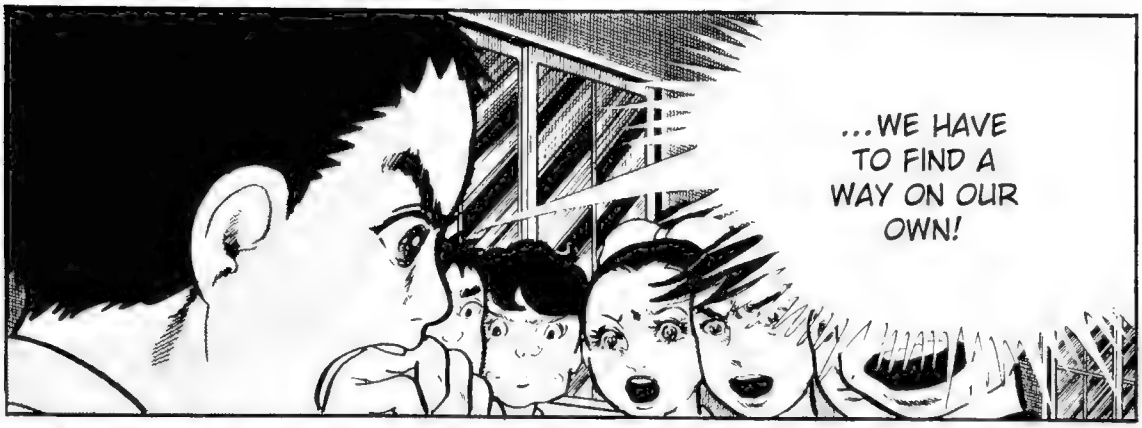
WE HAVE TO ASSUME WE'RE INFECTED!
BUT IF WE DON'T TAKE PRECAUTIONS, BY THEN IT'LL BE TOO LATE!

H-HOLD ON, OTOMO! CALM DOWN! IN A DAY WE'LL KNOW FOR SURE!


I THINK WE NEED TO MAKE ONE THING CLEAR.

OUR GOAL IS TO SURVIVE!

...THERE'S NO CHANCE...
EVEN IF...


...WE HAVE TO FIND A WAY ON OUR OWN!

RIGHT!? THINK OF ALL THE THINGS WE LEARNED IN SCHOOL THAT WE DIDN'T KNOW IF THEY WOULD EVER COME IN HANDY.

...BUT TO STAY ALIVE!
WE HAVE TO USE WHAT WE LEARNED...NOT FOR BETTER GRADES...

THE PEACH FLOWERS, FOR INSTANCE. IT WAS JUST SOMETHING WE STUDIED, BUT IT TURNED OUT TO BE USEFUL...

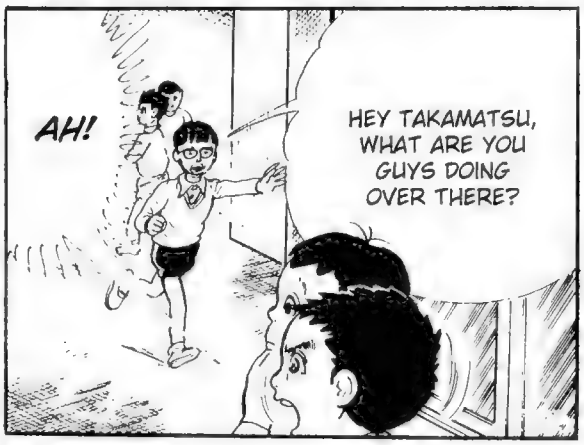
YOU KNOW WHAT I'M GETTING AT!

WE HAVE TO COME UP WITH OUR OWN SOLUTIONS!

WE HAVE TO SURVIVE NO MATTER WHAT!

NO ONE'S GOING TO HELP US! WE HAVE TO SURVIVE ON OUR OWN!
WE CAN'T JUST WAIT AROUND FOR HELP!

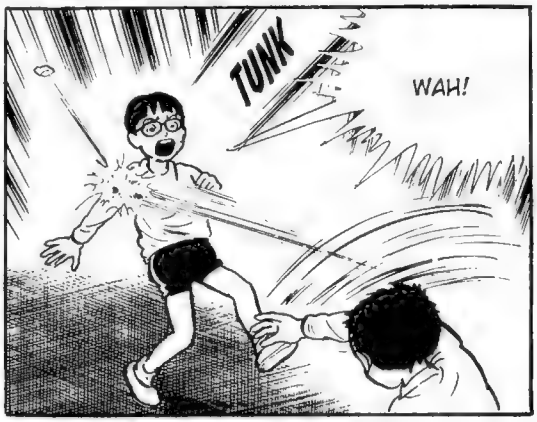
DON'T COME HERE! STAY BACK!


AH!
HEY TAKAMATSU, WHAT ARE YOU GUYS DOING OVER THERE?

I SAID NOT TO COME HERE!

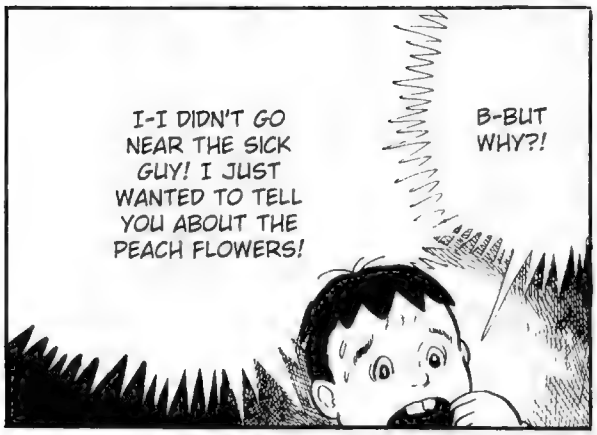
HUH? WHY?

WHAT!?
DON'T COME NEAR US!


TUNK
WAH!

THINK ABOUT IT! WE DON'T WANT TO INFECT THE OTHERS!
LEAVE?! WHY?

WE HAVE TO LEAVE THE SCHOOL!


I-I DIDN'T GO NEAR THE SICK GUY! I JUST WANTED TO TELL YOU ABOUT THE PEACH FLOWERS!
B-BUT WHY?!

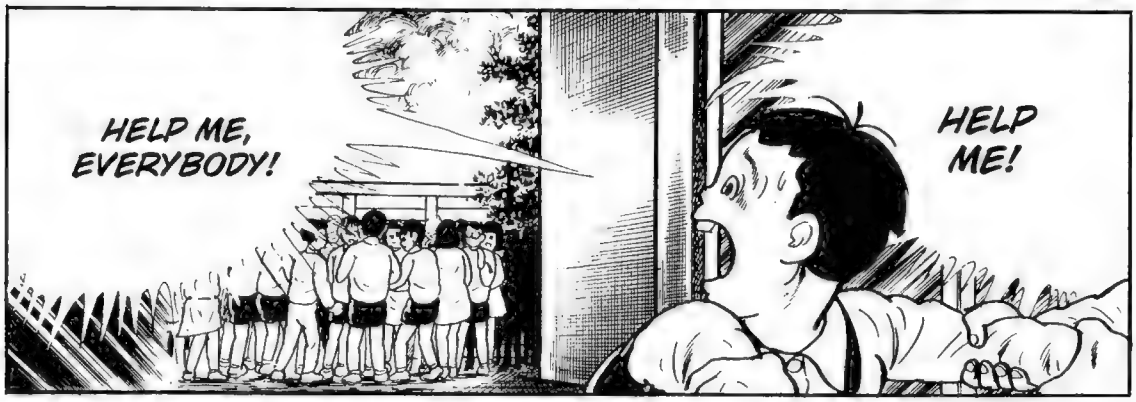
WHAT!?
YOU HAVE TO COME WITH US, YOSHIDA!

NO WAY!
HUH?!

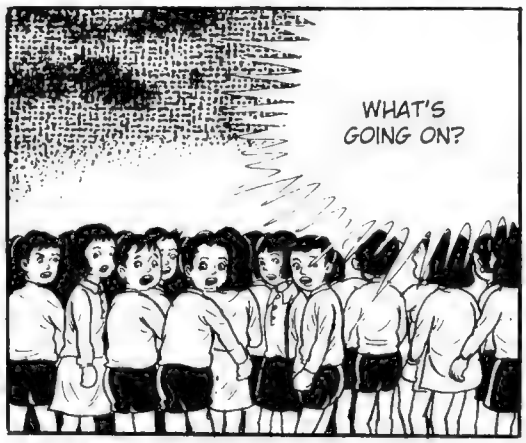
YES, BUT WE MIGHT HAVE INFECTED YOU ALREADY!

L-LET GO OF ME!

I'M GOING BACK WITH THE OTHERS!
I-I CAN'T BE INFECTED!


HELP ME, EVERYBODY!
HELP ME!

WHAT'S GOING ON, TAKAMATSU?
HEY, IT'S YOSHIDA!

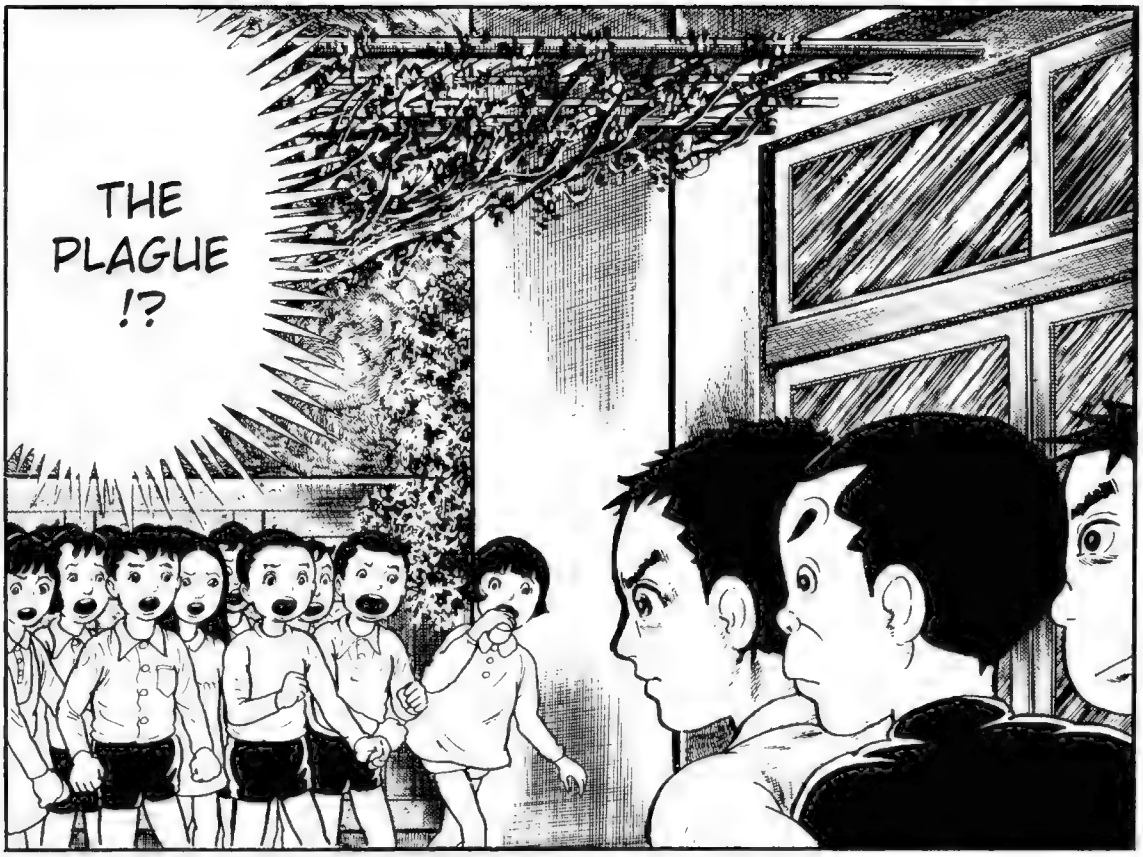

WHAT'S GOING ON?

DON'T GO IN THE FIRST-AID ROOM EITHER!

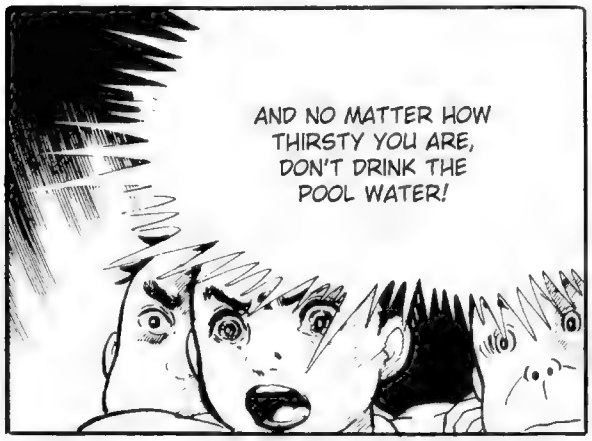
DON'T COME NEAR US! IT'S DANGEROUS!

WE MIGHT BE INFECTED...

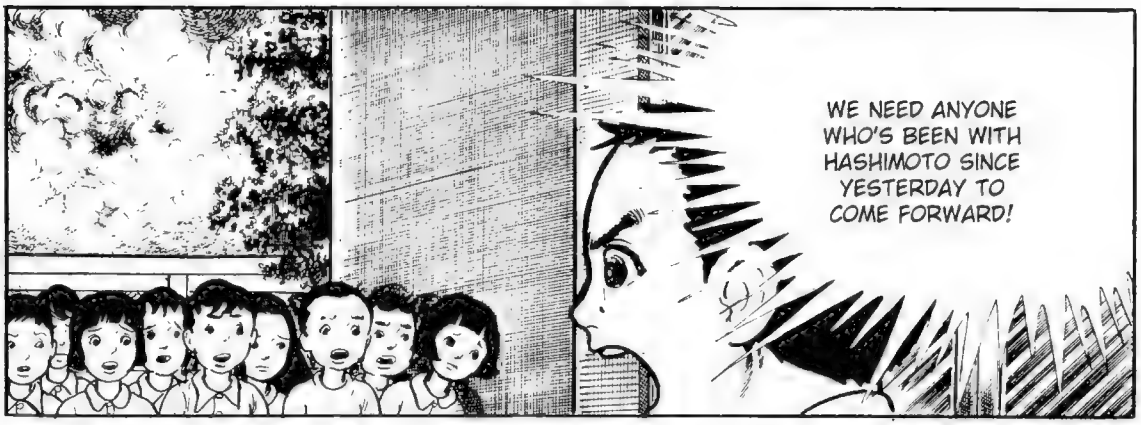
...WITH THE PLAGUE!


THE PLAGUE !?

YOU HAVE TO GO TO ANOTHER BUILDING! AND DON'T GO NEAR THE FIRST-AID ROOM!


AND NO MATTER HOW THIRSTY YOU ARE, DON'T DRINK THE POOL WATER!

THAT'S RIGHT! WE MIGHT BE INFECTED WITH THE BUBONIC PLAGUE!


WE NEED ANYONE WHO'S BEEN WITH HASHIMOTO SINCE YESTERDAY TO COME FORWARD!

I'M IN HASHIMOTO'S CLASS...

HE'S ALWAYS QUIET. HE'S KEPT TO HIMSELF SINCE WE CAME HERE!

HE DOESN'T HAVE MANY FRIENDS. HE USUALLY SPENDS MOST OF HIS TIME AT THE PLAYGROUND ALONE.

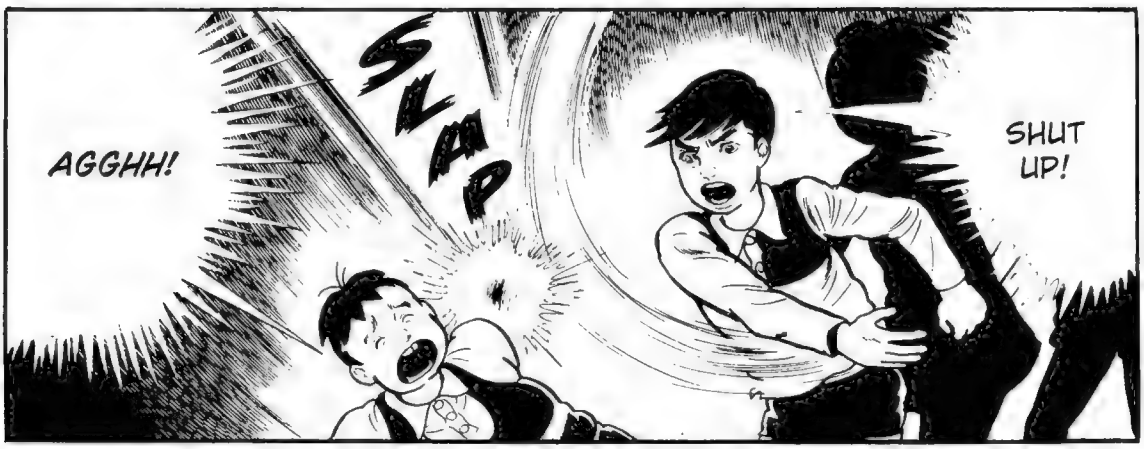
SO YOU'RE SAYING NO ONE'S TALKED TO HASHIMOTO?

DON'T LIE! IF YOU DO, WE'RE ALL DOOMED!
YES! WE'RE SURE!
YOU'RE ABSOLUTELY SURE?!
T-T-TAKAMATSU!
HELP ME!
HELP ME, GUYS! I'M NOT INFECTED!
STAY BACK, GAMO! WE MIGHT HAVE THE PLAGUE!
UM, UH... WH-WHAT'S GOING ON HERE!
THE PLAGUE ?!
WHOMP
HUH?!

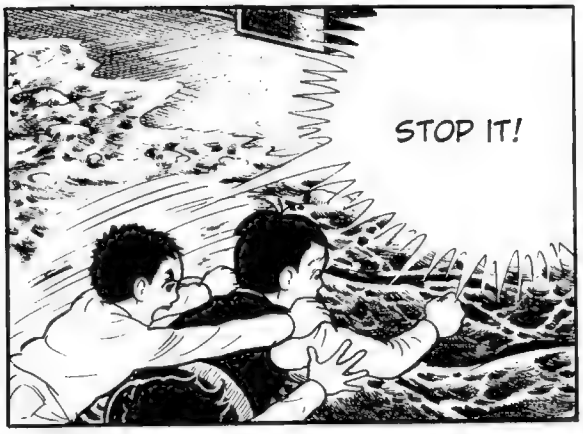
WE'RE LEAVING THE SCHOOL! YOU'RE IN CHARGE OF EVERYTHING FROM NOW ON!
YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE IN OUR GROUP WHO MANAGED NOT TO CATCH IT!
Y-YOU MEAN THE BLACK DEATH?! THE DEADLY DISEASE TRANSMITTED BY FLEA-CARRYING RATS...?!
PLEASE TAKE CARE OF YU! HE'S SO LITTLE!
NISHI!
GAMO? GAMO, WAKE UP!
YOU HAVE TO FOLLOW MY ORDERS THIS TIME!
EVERYONE CALM DOWN. GO TO THE OLDER BUILDING!
MRMR
MRMR
A-ALL RIGHT!
NOOO! DON'T TAKE ME WITH YOU!
WE'RE LEAVING NOW! GOODBYE!

I WANNA GO BACK!
I DON'T HAVE THE PLAGUE!

YOU'RE GONNA INFECT ME!


AGGHH!
SLAP
SHUT UP!

YOU'RE DRAGGING ME DOWN WITH YOU!


STOP IT!

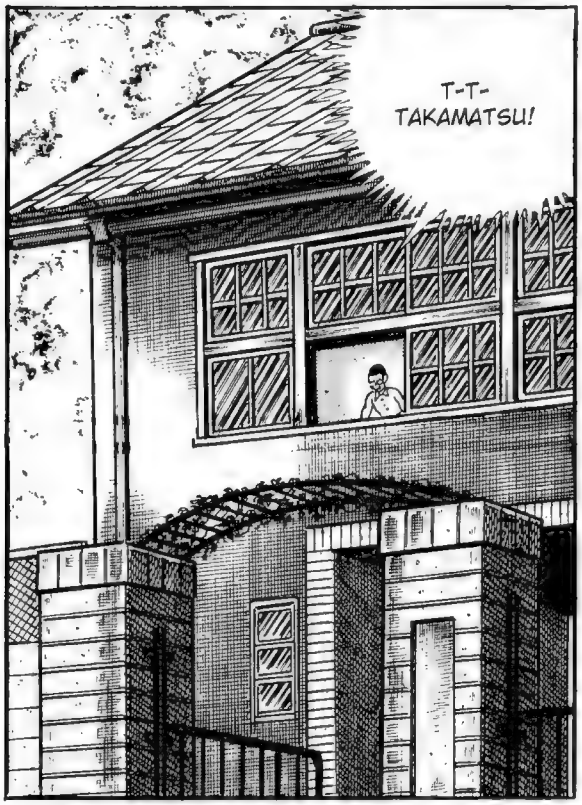
HEY!
I'M GOING BACK!

DON'T YOU GET IT? WE'RE ALL INFECTED!

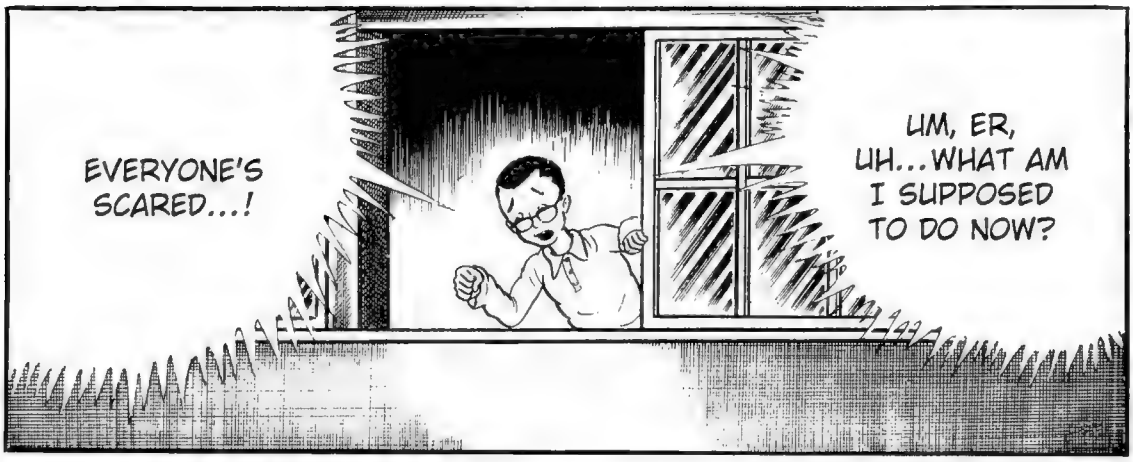
TIE HIM UP WITH HIS SOCKS!
LET ME GO!

SHUT UP! WE DIDN'T CHOOSE THIS EITHER!

I DON'T WANT TO BE INFECTED!


T-T-TAKAMATSU!

WAAH!

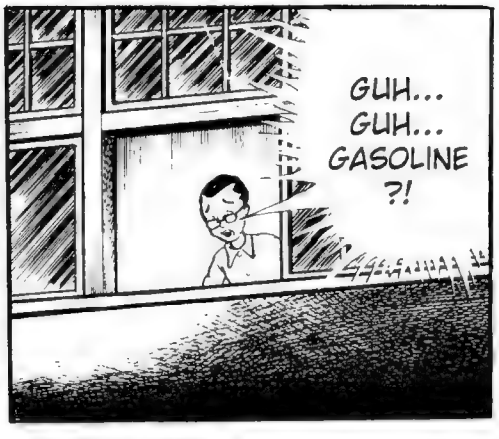

EVERYONE'S SCARED...!
UM, ER, UH...WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO NOW?

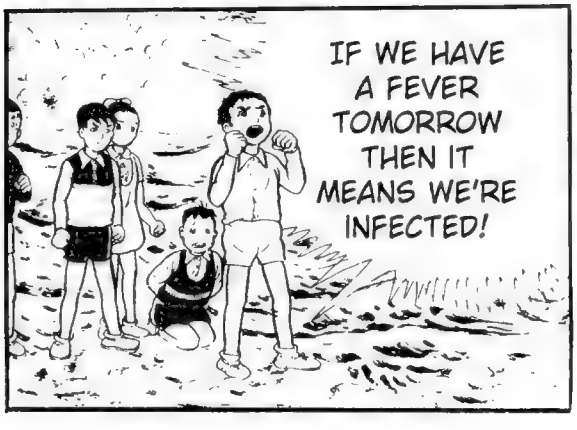
THE SIXTH GRADERS HAVE TO HOLD A NEW ELECTION!

GAMO!

AND I NEED YOU TO GET SOME GASOLINE!

THERE'S ONLY ONE WAY TO STOP THE PLAGUE! IT HAS TO BE *BURNED OUT!*


GUH... GUH... GASOLINE ?!


IF WE HAVE A FEVER TOMORROW THEN IT MEANS WE'RE INFECTED!

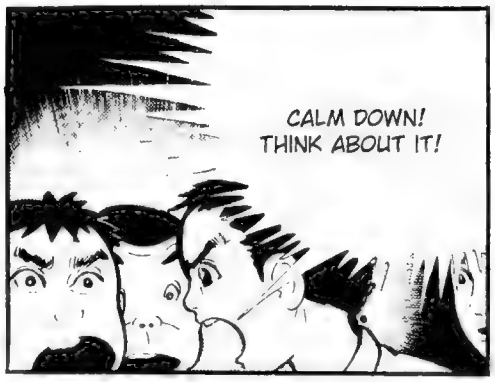
B-BURNED OUT? YOU MEAN...?

WAIT! TAKAMATSU!

UHH... OKAY...!

...TO BURN *US!?*
Y-YOU MEAN THE GASOLINE'S...

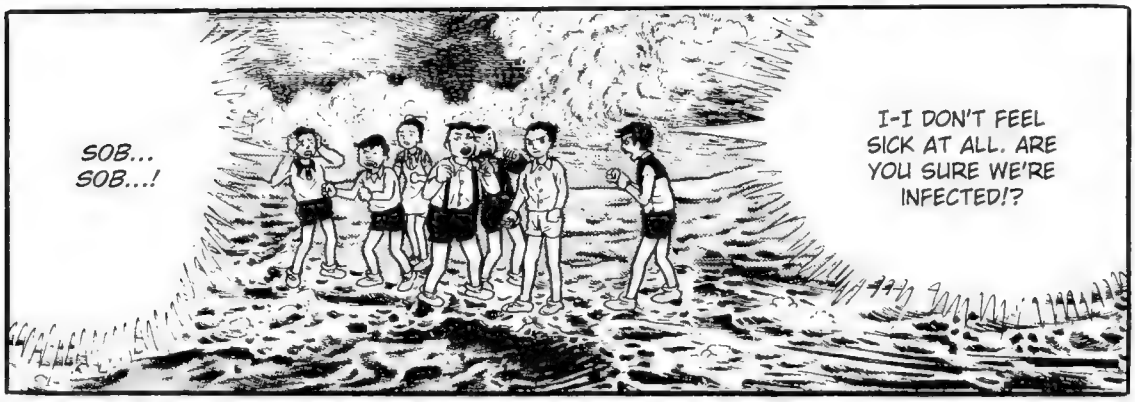
NO! THERE'S GOT TO BE ANOTHER WAY!


CALM DOWN! THINK ABOUT IT!

I-I THINK IT'S CALLED STREPTOMYCIN!
YANASE, WHAT CURES THE PLAGUE? THERE'S GOT TO BE SOMETHING! THIS ISN'T THE MIDDLE AGES!

IF ONLY WE HAD SOME!

IF WE HAD SOME STREPTOMYCIN, WE'D BY FINE!


SOB... SOB...!
I-I DON'T FEEL SICK AT ALL. ARE YOU SURE WE'RE INFECTED!?

WE WON'T KNOW UNTIL TOMORROW!

BEFORE THAT WE HAVE TO GO GET HASHIMOTO AND BURN DOWN THE FIRST-AID ROOM!

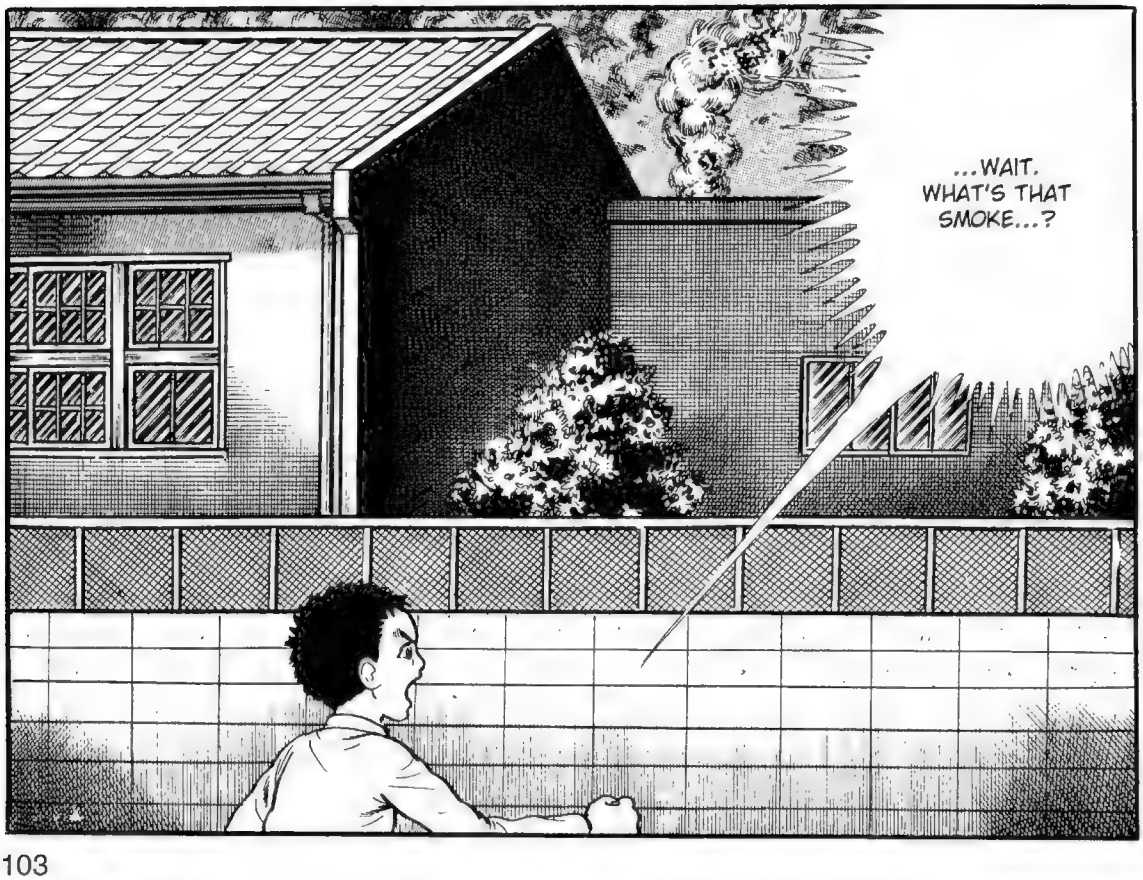
I-I TOLD YOU!

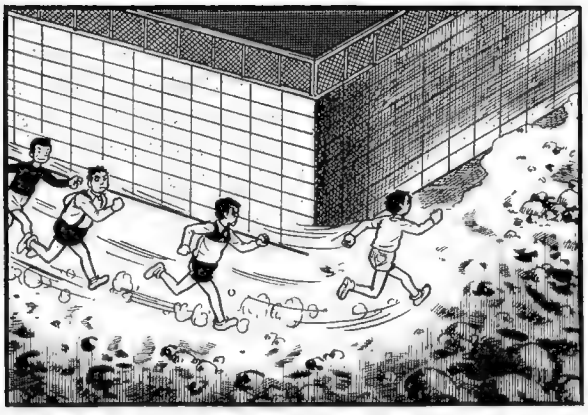
THEN WE'LL *REALLY* BE INFECTED!

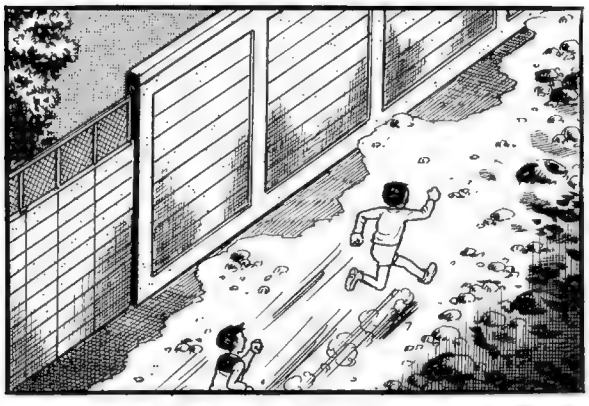
Y-YOU WANT US TO GET HASHIMOTO?!

ONCE HE COMES OUT, THERE WON'T BE ANYONE INFECTED LEFT INSIDE THE SCHOOL!

NO! HASHIMOTO MIGHT STILL BE ABLE TO WALK. WE HAVE TO CALL HIM OUT HERE!


...WAIT. WHAT'S THAT SMOKE...?

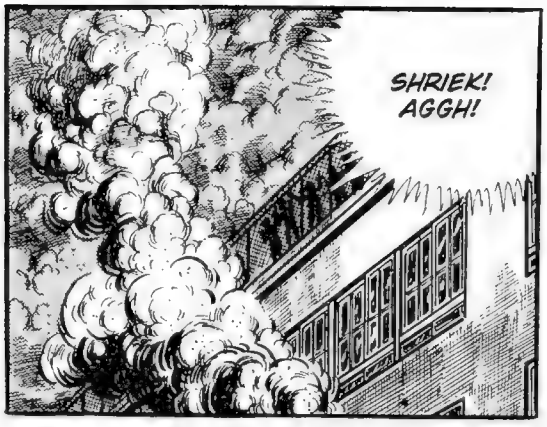




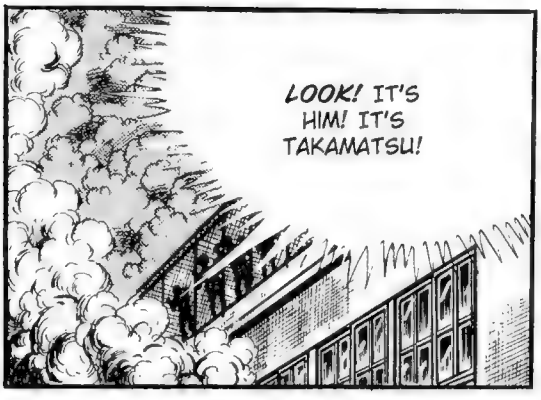
CHAPTER 21

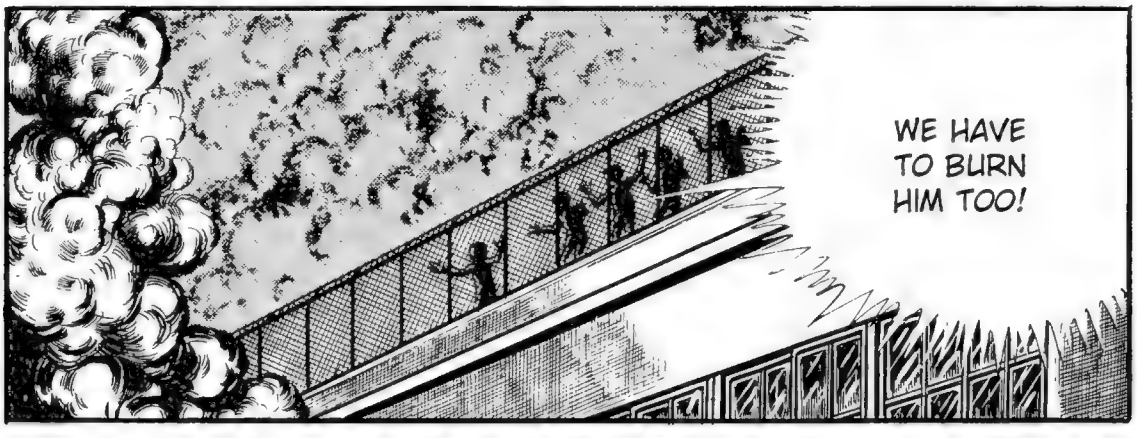
THE PLAGUE TERROR

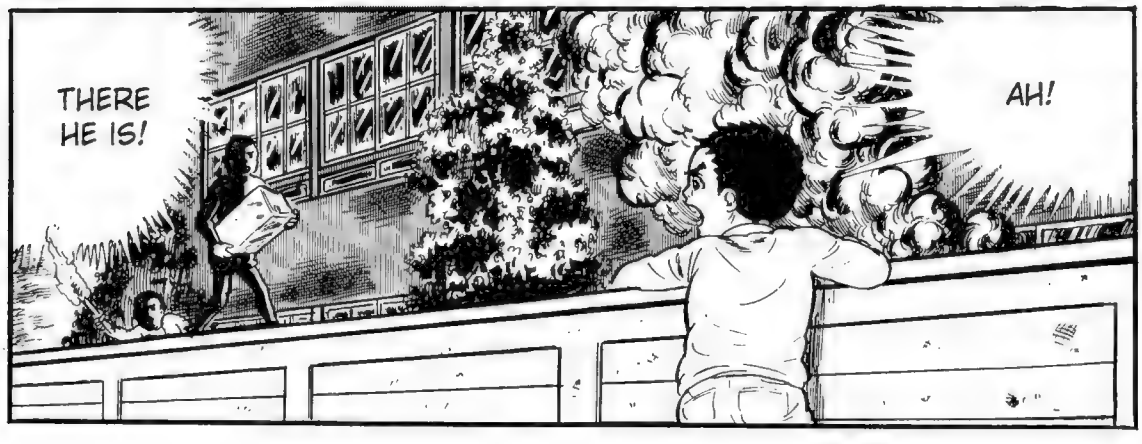
AGGHH!
OH NO!
KRAAH
SIZZZ
KRAK!
KRAK!
H-HELP
...!


SHRIEK!
AGGH!

TAKAMATSU!
KOFF...!
KOFF...!


LOOK! IT'S HIM! IT'S TAKAMATSU!


WE HAVE TO BURN HIM TOO!


THERE HE IS!
AH!

SPLASH

TAKAMATSU!

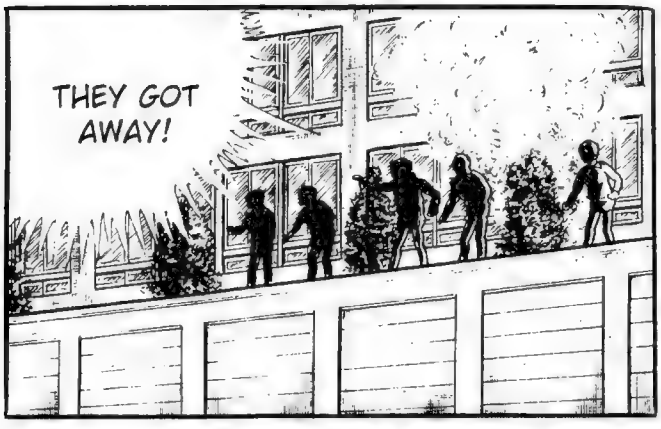
FOOM

AGGH!
SPLSH
QUICK! GET THEM ALL AT ONCE!

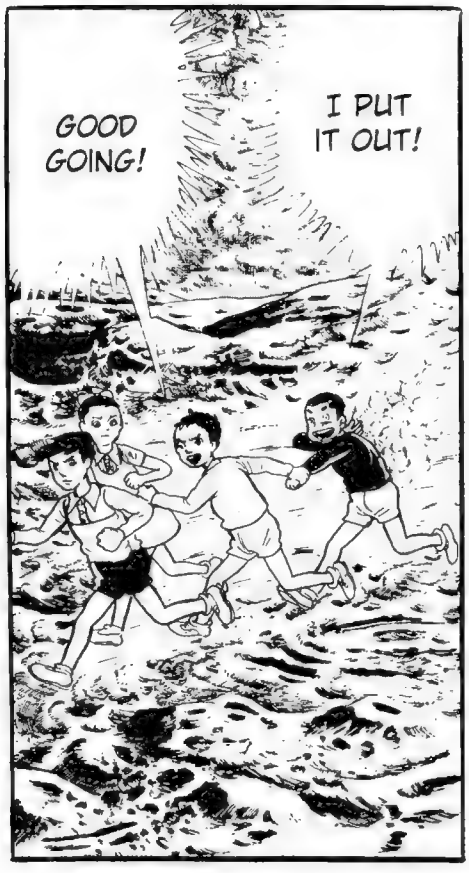
RUN!!

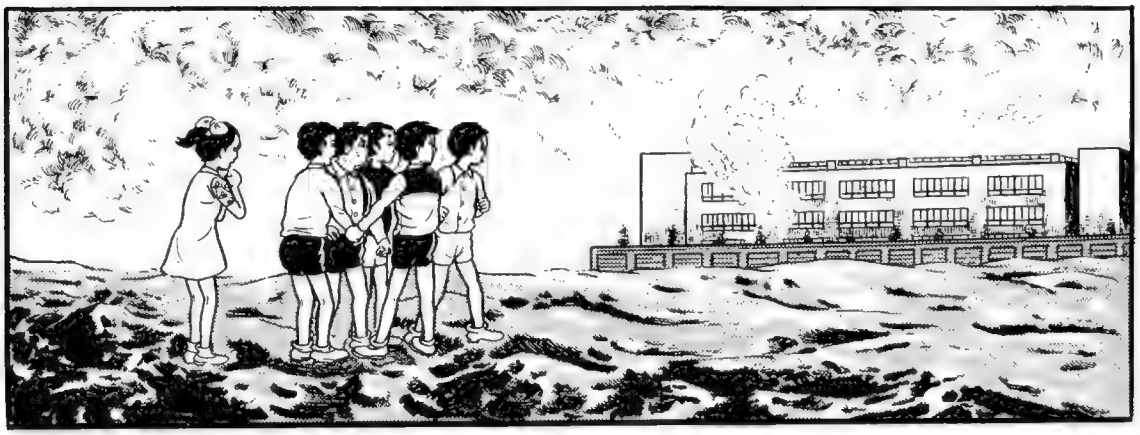
SHIBATA!
WHUD

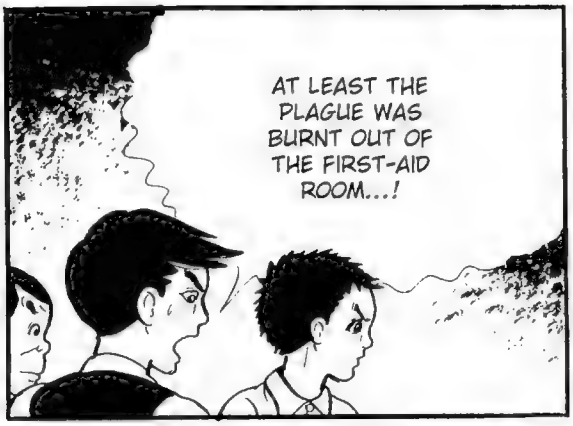
OH NO!
FOOSH

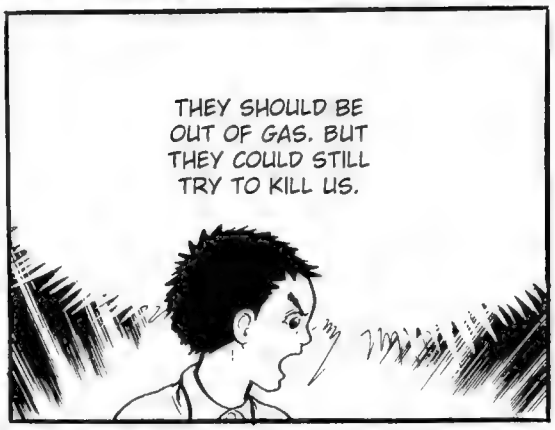

THEY GOT AWAY!

DID GAMO TELL THEM TO BURN US?!
THIS IS INSANE!


GOOD GOING!
I PUT IT OUT!

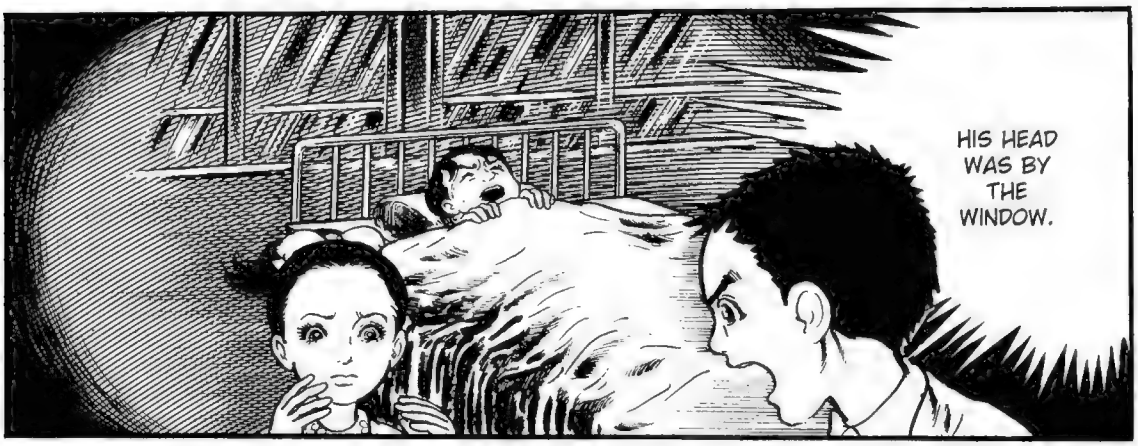


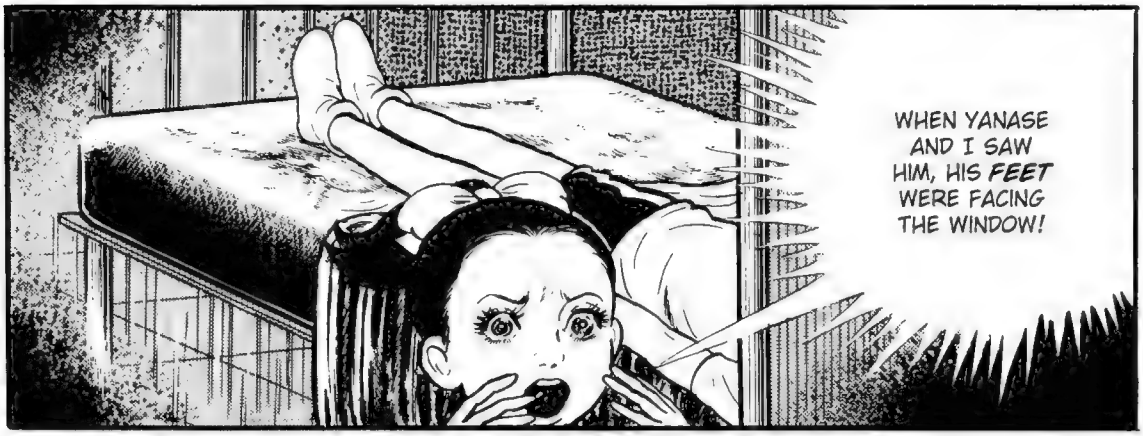

AT LEAST THE PLAGUE WAS BURNT OUT OF THE FIRST-AID ROOM...!


THEY SHOULD BE OUT OF GAS. BUT THEY COULD STILL TRY TO KILL US.

WHEN HASHIMOTO WAS LYING IN BED...WHAT POSITION WAS HE IN?

H-HOLD ON!


HIS HEAD WAS BY THE WINDOW.


WHEN YANASE AND I SAW HIM, HIS *FEET* WERE FACING THE WINDOW!

NO! HE WAS TOO SICK!

DID HE GET UP ON HIS OWN?

WH-WHAT!?

SOMEONE ELSE MUST HAVE COME INTO CONTACT WITH HIM!

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?!

THEN THE WHOLE SCHOOL'S CONTAMINATED!

OH MY GOD! WHAT ABOUT YU...?!

THERE'S OTHER PEOPLE INFECTED...! IT COULD BE ANYONE...!

HEY, TAKE A LOOK OVER HERE! THERE'S SOME DIRTY UNDERWEAR LYING AROUND!

HASHIMOTO

IT'S HASHIMOTO'S!

OH!

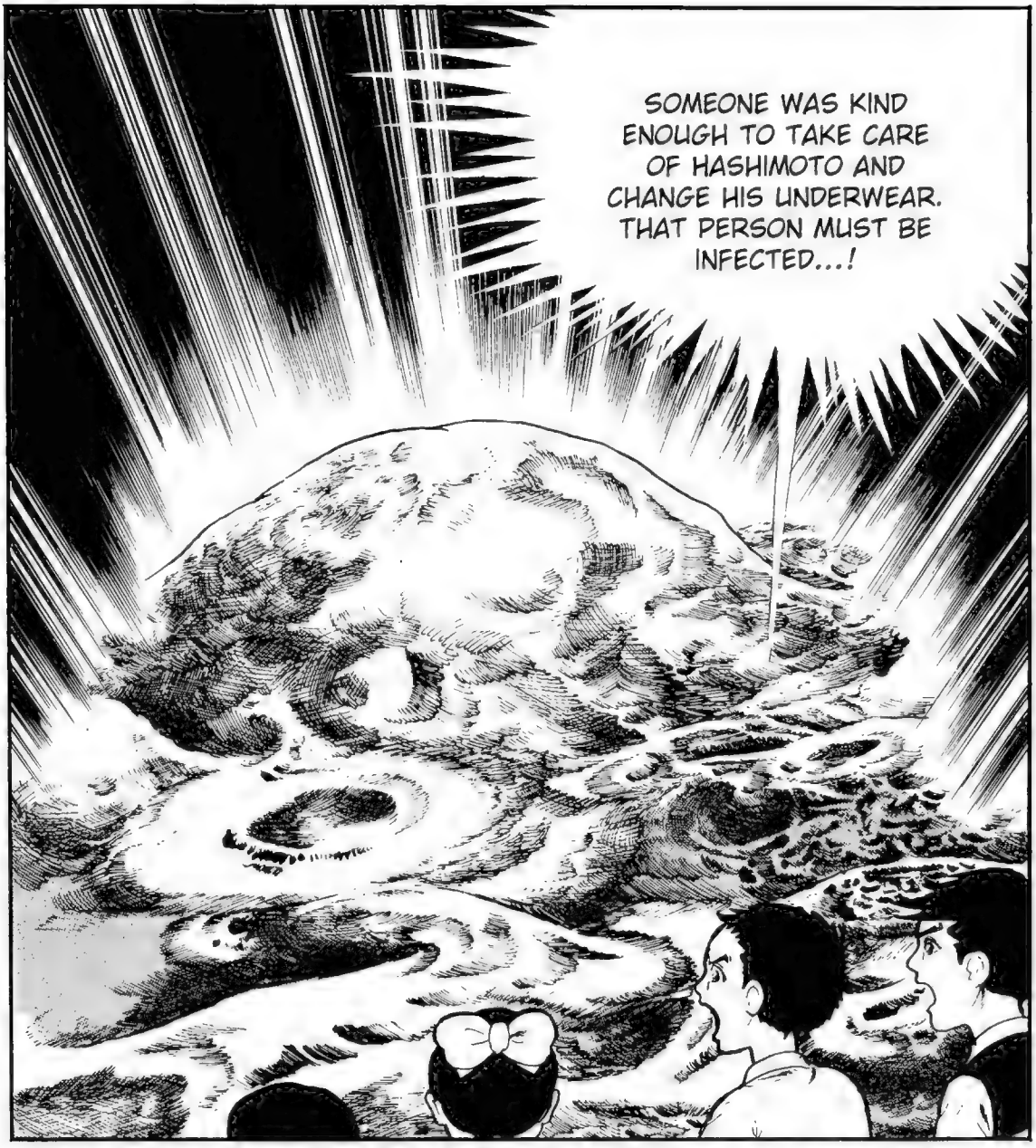
DON'T GO NEAR IT!
WAIT, TAKAMATSU!

SO HE DID HAVE DIARRHEA! IT IS THE PLAGUE! YOU'LL CATCH IT IF YOU GO NEAR IT!

DIG
DIG

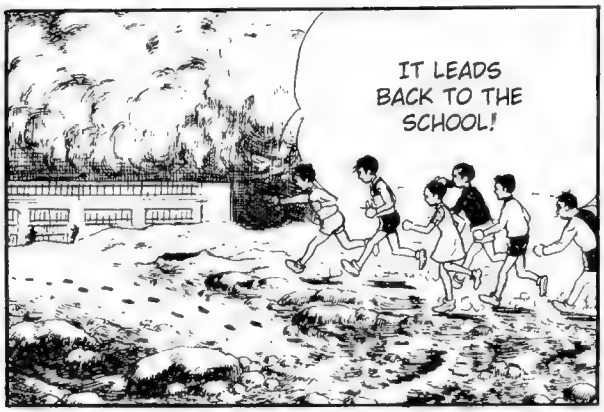
GOOD IDEA!
WE HAVE TO BURY IT!

FSH
FSH


SOMEONE WAS KIND ENOUGH TO TAKE CARE OF HASHIMOTO AND CHANGE HIS UNDERWEAR. THAT PERSON MUST BE INFECTED...!

WHOEVER IT WAS CAME THIS WAY!

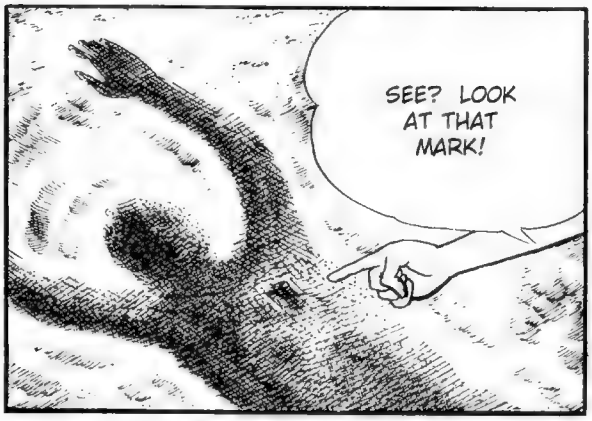
LOOK! FOOT-PRINTS!


IT LEADS BACK TO THE SCHOOL!

OH! HE FELL AND LEFT A MARK...

IT'S SOMEONE SHORT...!

HUH?
I KNOW HOW WE CAN IDENTIFY HIM!


SEE? LOOK AT THAT MARK!

HE WAS WEARING ONE OF THOSE POPULAR MANGA BADGES ON HIS CHEST!

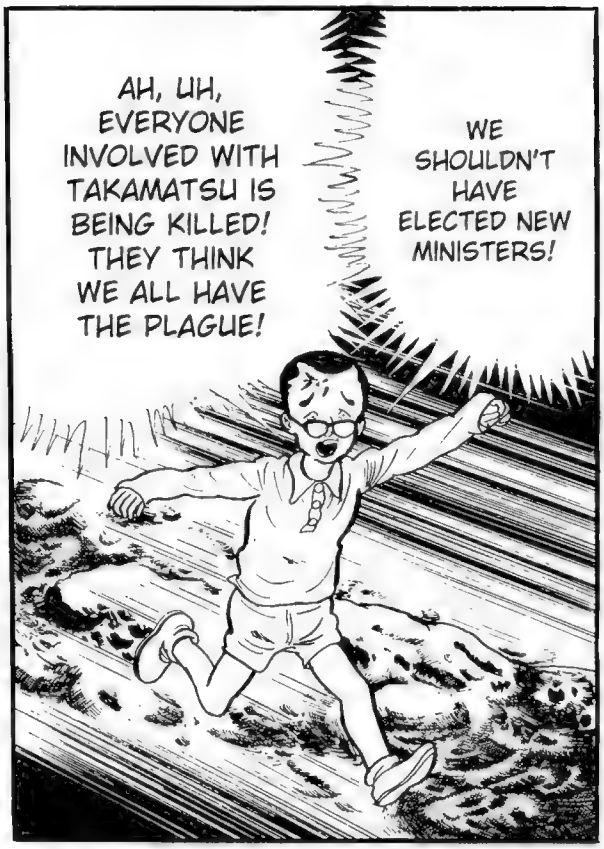
WAIT A SECOND...I DON'T THINK IT'S JUST ONE PERSON.

SO WE JUST HAVE TO FIND SOMEONE WEARING A BADGE!

I DON'T THINK ANYONE COULD HAVE MOVED HASHIMOTO SO QUICKLY WITHOUT HELP. THERE MUST HAVE BEEN AT LEAST THREE OF THEM!

THAT'S TERRIBLE!
THREE PEOPLE?!
WE HAVE TO CALL GAMO! GAMO!
T-T-TAKAMATSU! RUN!
AHA!

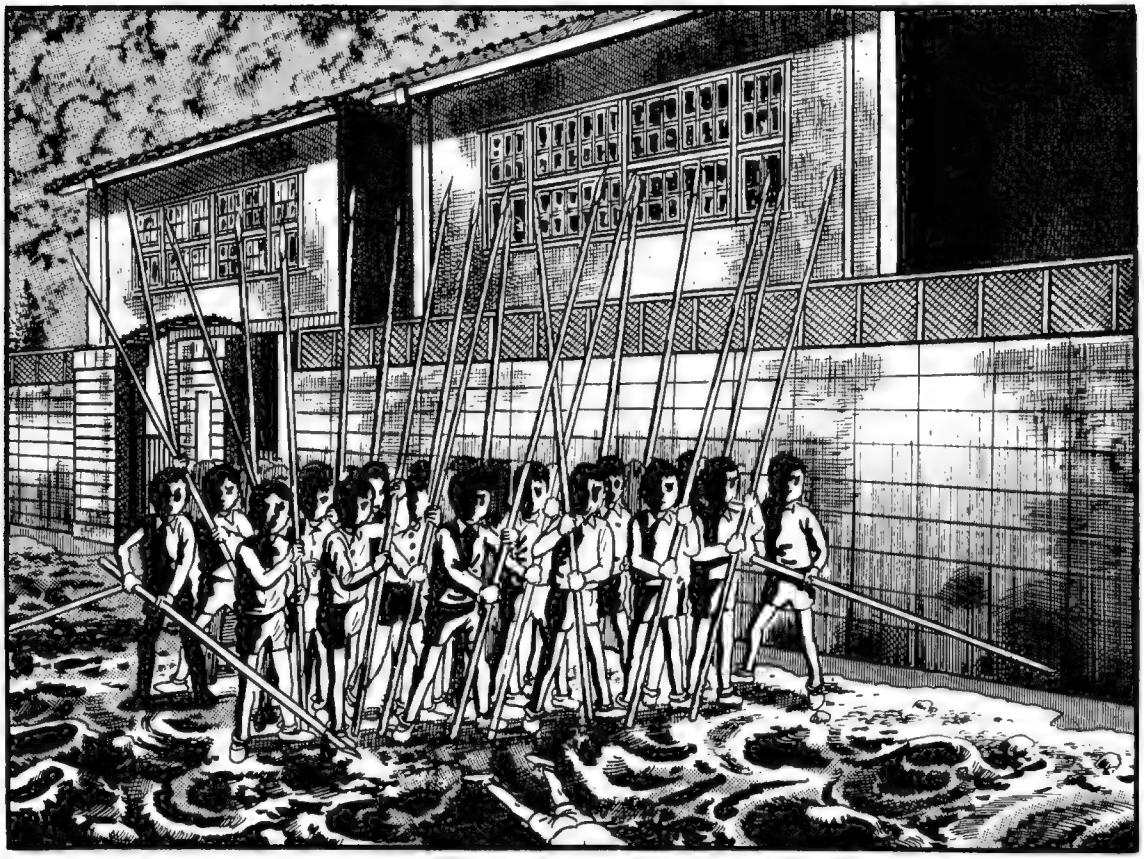
AGH!


AH, UH, EVERYONE INVOLVED WITH TAKAMATSU IS BEING KILLED! THEY THINK WE ALL HAVE THE PLAGUE!
WE SHOULDN'T HAVE ELECTED NEW MINISTERS!

BAM

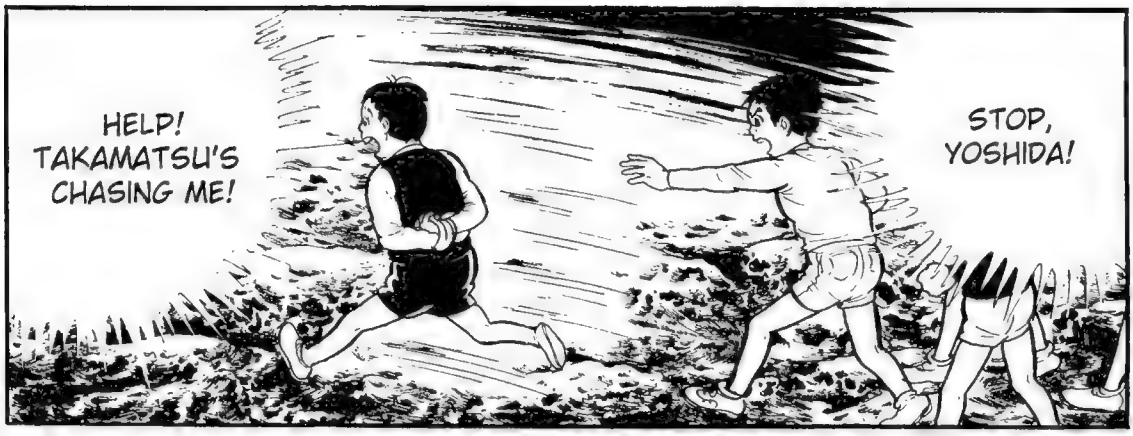
GAMO!

GASP!

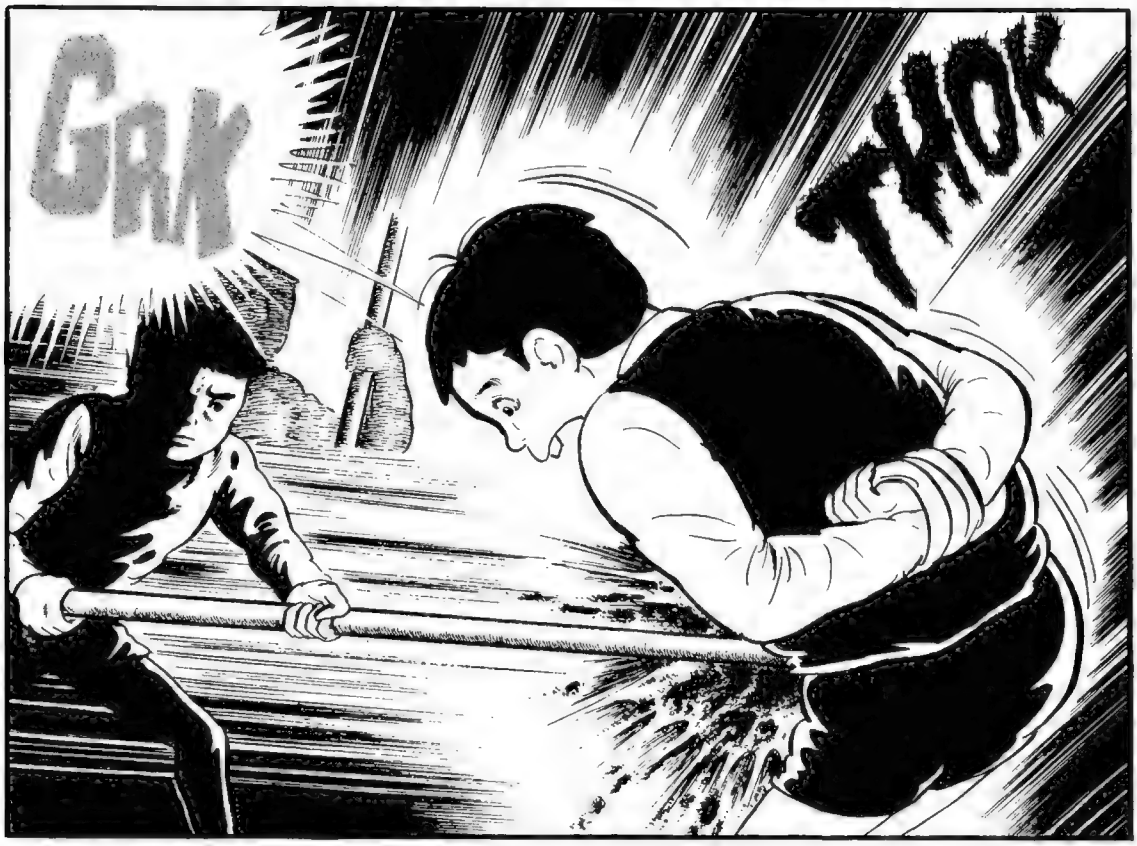


YOU SAVED ME!

HEY, YOU GUYS!


HELP! TAKAMATSU'S CHASING ME!
STOP, YOSHIDA!

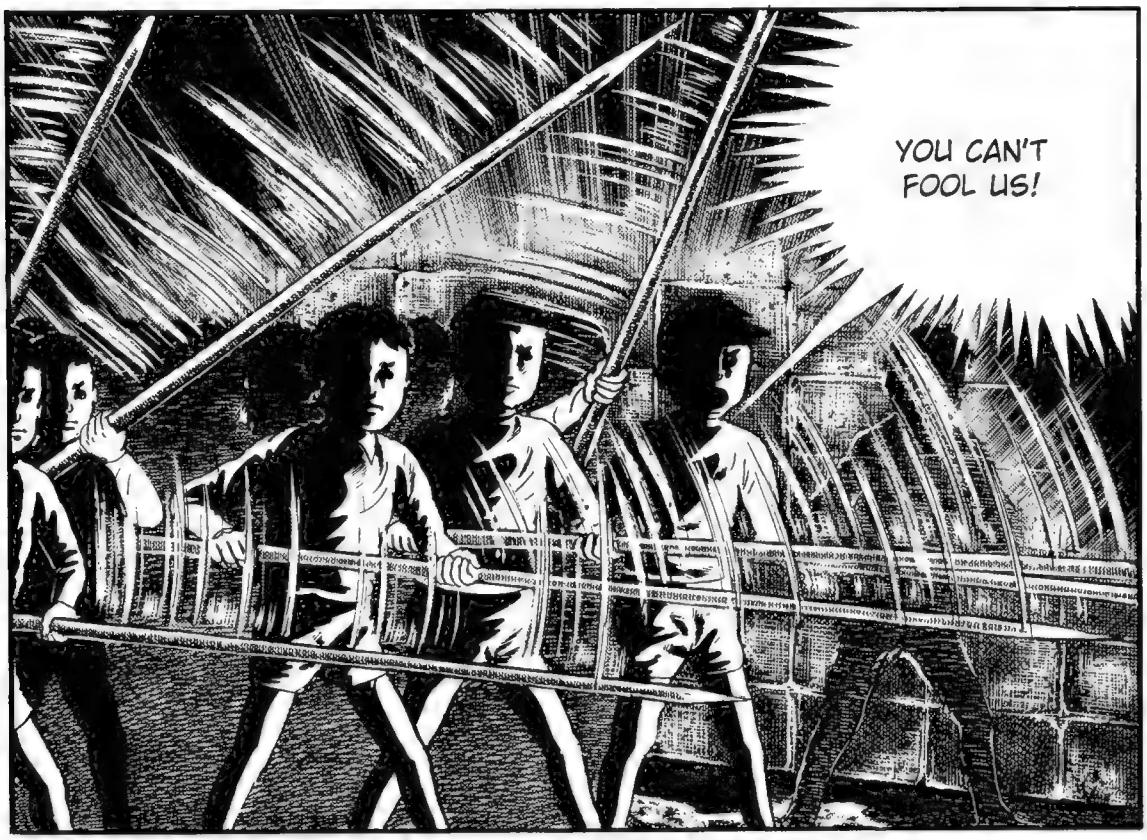
THEY'RE HOLDING ME CAPTIVE!

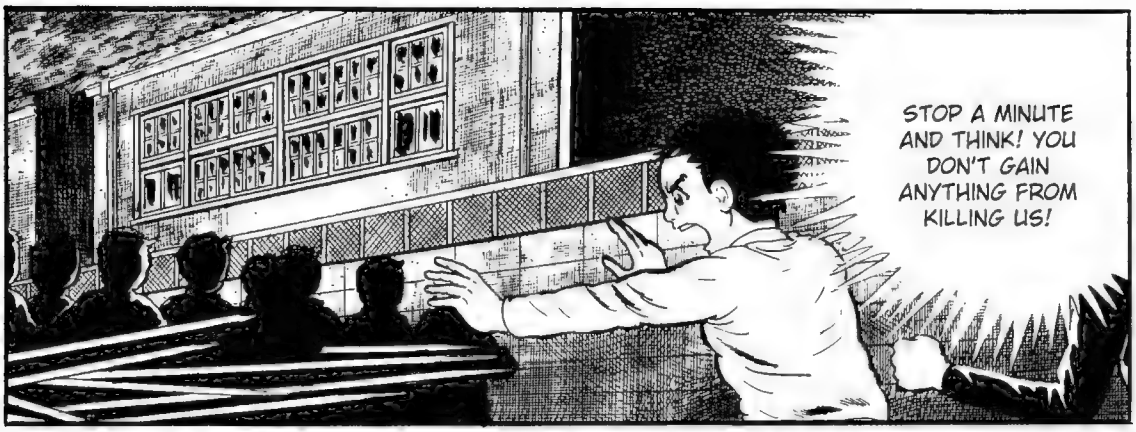

GAK
THOK

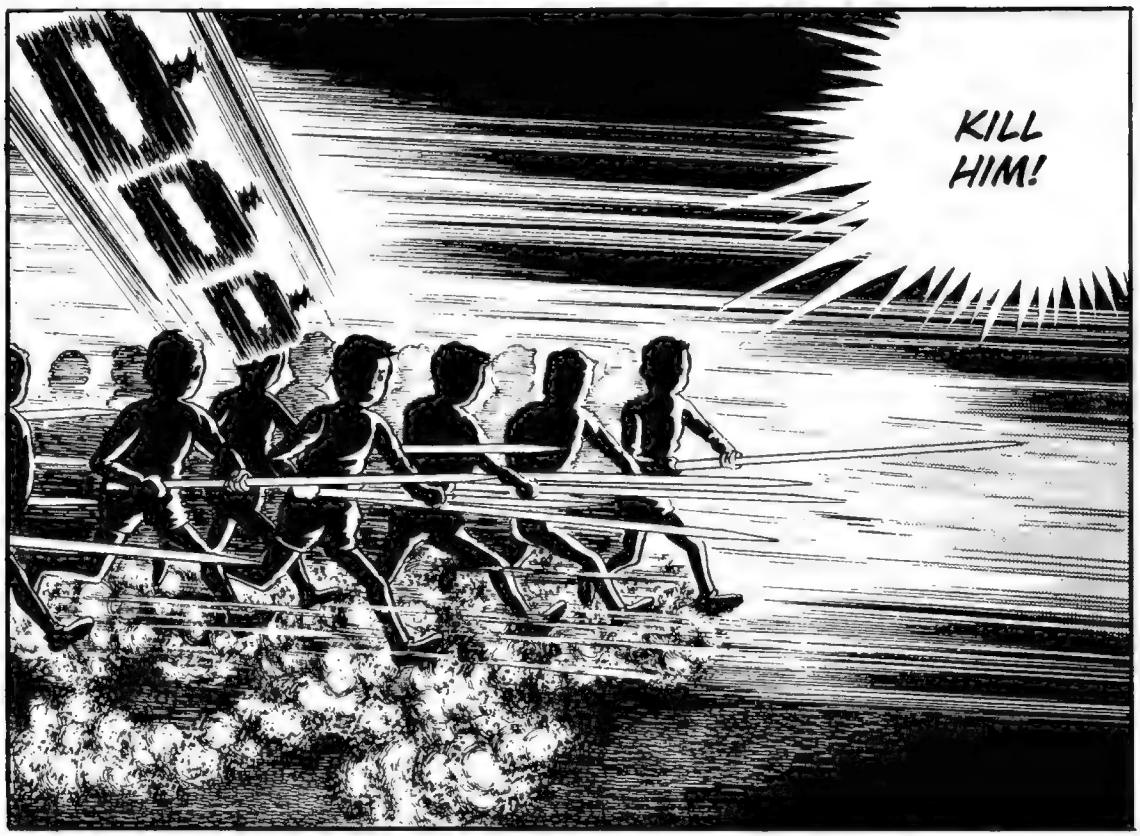
WH-WHAT ...?
WHUDD

YOSHIDA!

OTHER PEOPLE IN THE SCHOOL ARE ALREADY INFECTED!
HOLD ON! THIS IS POINTLESS!


YOU CAN'T FOOL US!

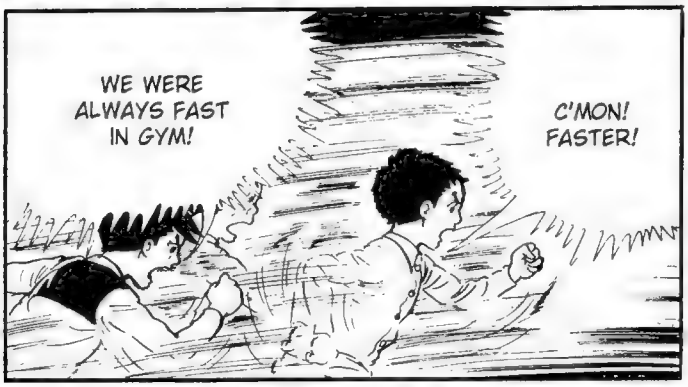

STOP A MINUTE AND THINK! YOU DON'T GAIN ANYTHING FROM KILLING US!

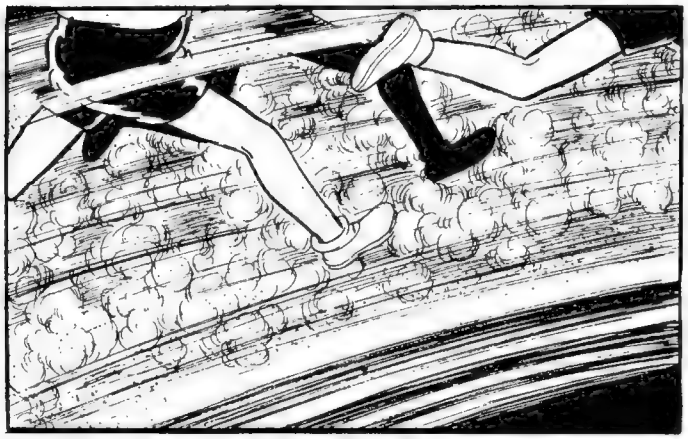

KILL HIM!

THEY'RE REALLY GOING TO KILL US!
NO!

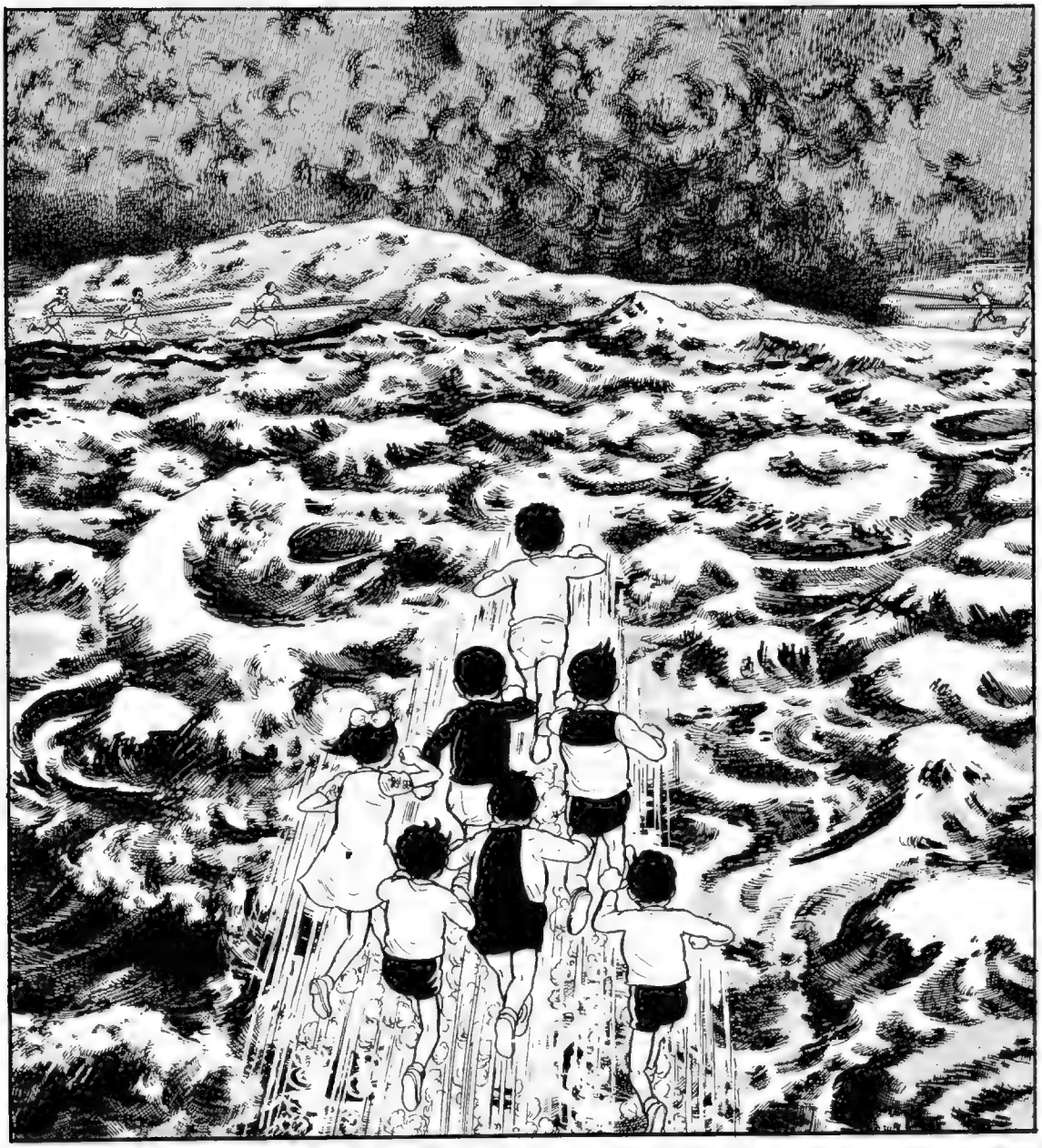
RUN FOR IT!

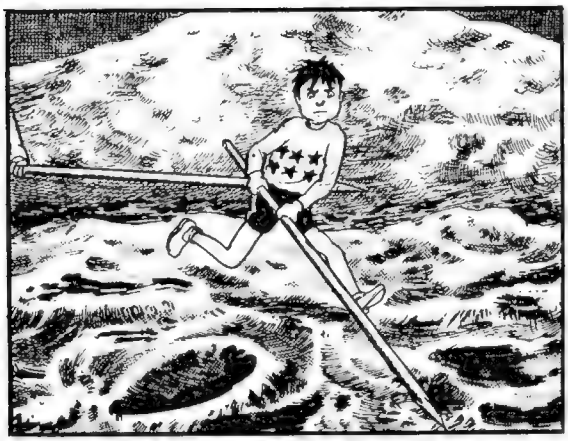
THEY'RE COMING FROM BEHIND TOO!


WE WERE ALWAYS FAST IN GYM!
C'MON! FASTER!



WE'RE SURROUNDED!



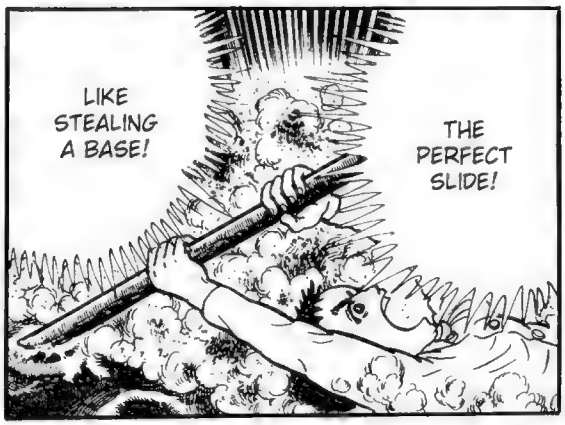


DIE, PLAGUE!

FOLLOW ME AND KEEP RUNNING!

SH-
SHO!
AGGHH!
THUNK

B-BUMP
ARGH


LIKE STEALING A BASE!
THE PERFECT SLIDE!

COME ON, RUN!

AIEE!
NO...!

HEY, THEY'RE ATTACKING THEIR OWN GUY...!

THOK

I'M NOT INFECTED!
HELP! I DIDN'T TOUCH THEM!

THOK
THOK

THOK

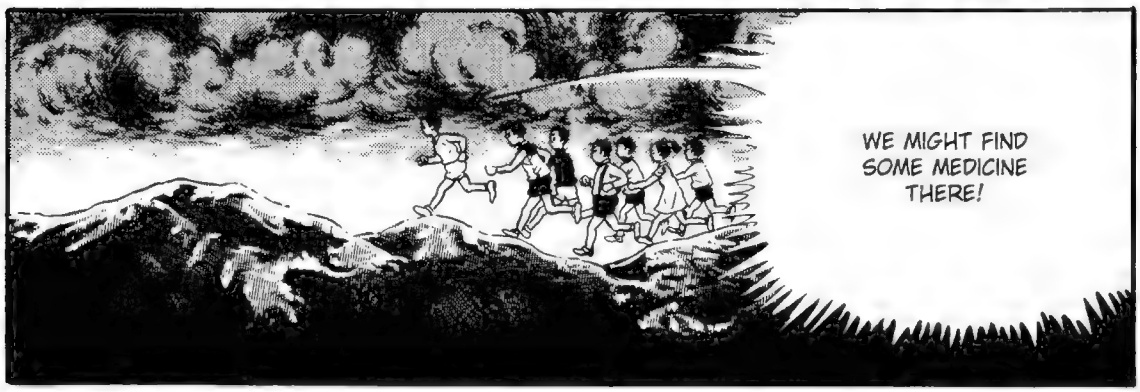
AGGHH!

AHH!
OVER HERE!
S-SAKI... WHERE ARE YOU?
PANT... PANT...
WHUD
WE ALL MADE IT!

HOLD ON! LET'S FIND A HOSPITAL!

WHO CARES IF WE "MADE IT"?! TOMORROW WE'LL ALL BE SICK!

THE GENERAL HOSPITAL USED TO BE AROUND HERE! MAYBE THERE'S SOME KIND OF RUINS!


WE MIGHT FIND SOME MEDICINE THERE!

IT WAS AROUND HERE!

WHAT!?

HEY, I FOUND SOMETHING! IT'S MEDICINE!

WOW!

SHOW US!
REALLY!?

IT'S NO GOOD! IT'S ALL DUST!

GASP!

WHAT WAS THAT!?

YOU CRUSHED IT! YOU'RE TOO CLUMSY!

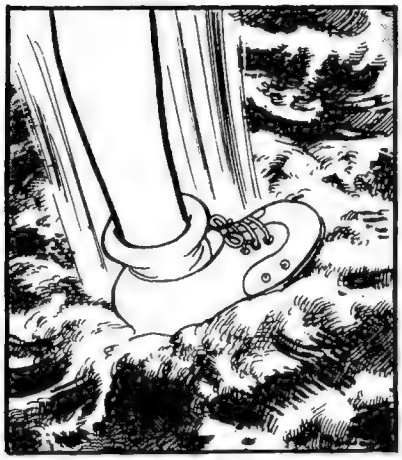
OTOMO!
TAKE THAT!

SAY THAT AGAIN, YOU BASTARD!

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE WORLD!? HOW COULD THIS HAPPEN TO US?

EVERYTHING'S TURNED TO SAND! EVERYTHING AROUND US! THERE'S NOTHING LEFT!

AGGH !!



OTOMO ...!

WHAT IS THIS PLACE?!

AGGH!

WAAH!
SKSHH

I'M ALL RIGHT!

TAKAMATSU!

THERE'S A CAVERN.

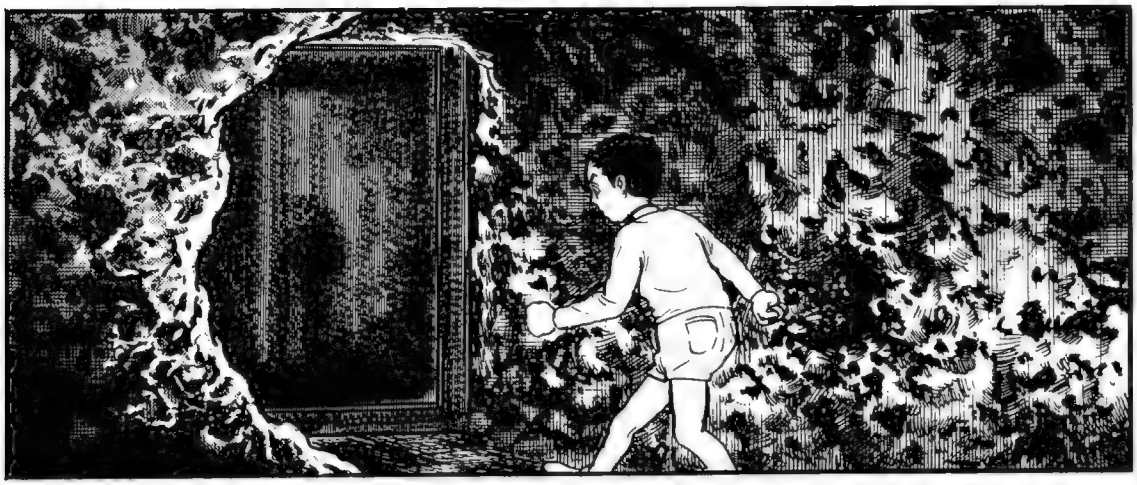
WE'RE COMING DOWN!

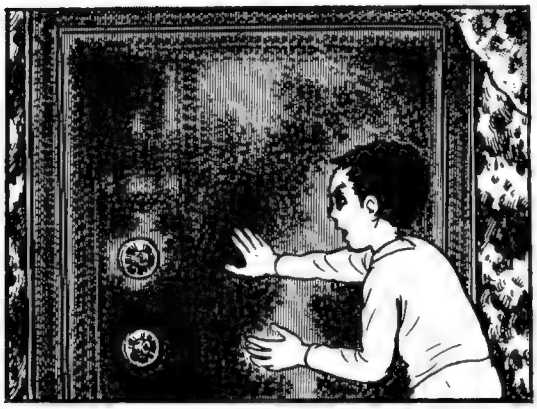
IT MUST BE THE HOSPITAL BASEMENT!

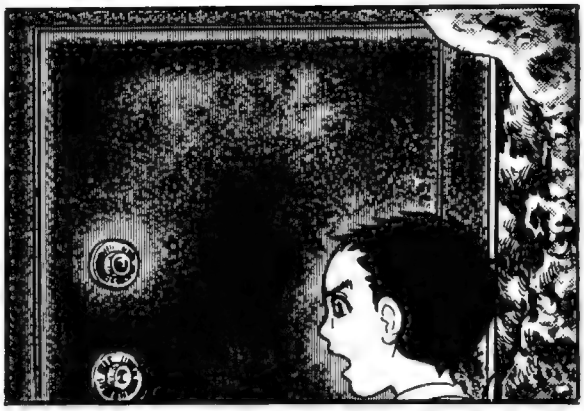
HOLD ON! IT MIGHT COLLAPSE IF YOU ALL COME DOWN HERE. I'LL GO ALONE!

YOUR VOICE COULD BRING DOWN THE WHOLE CAVE!
SHH!

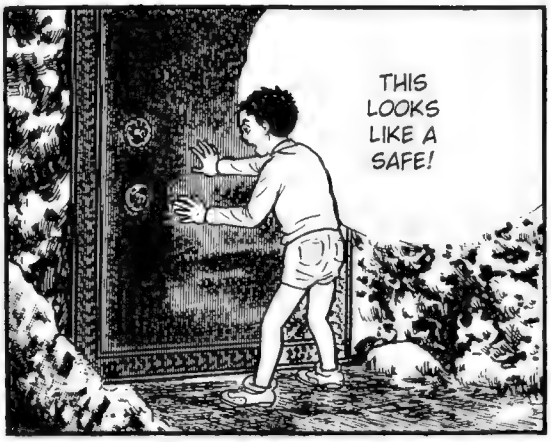
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, SHO!?

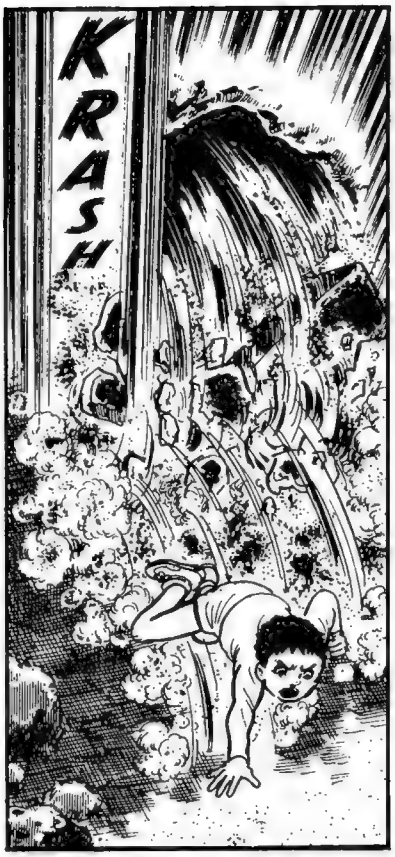


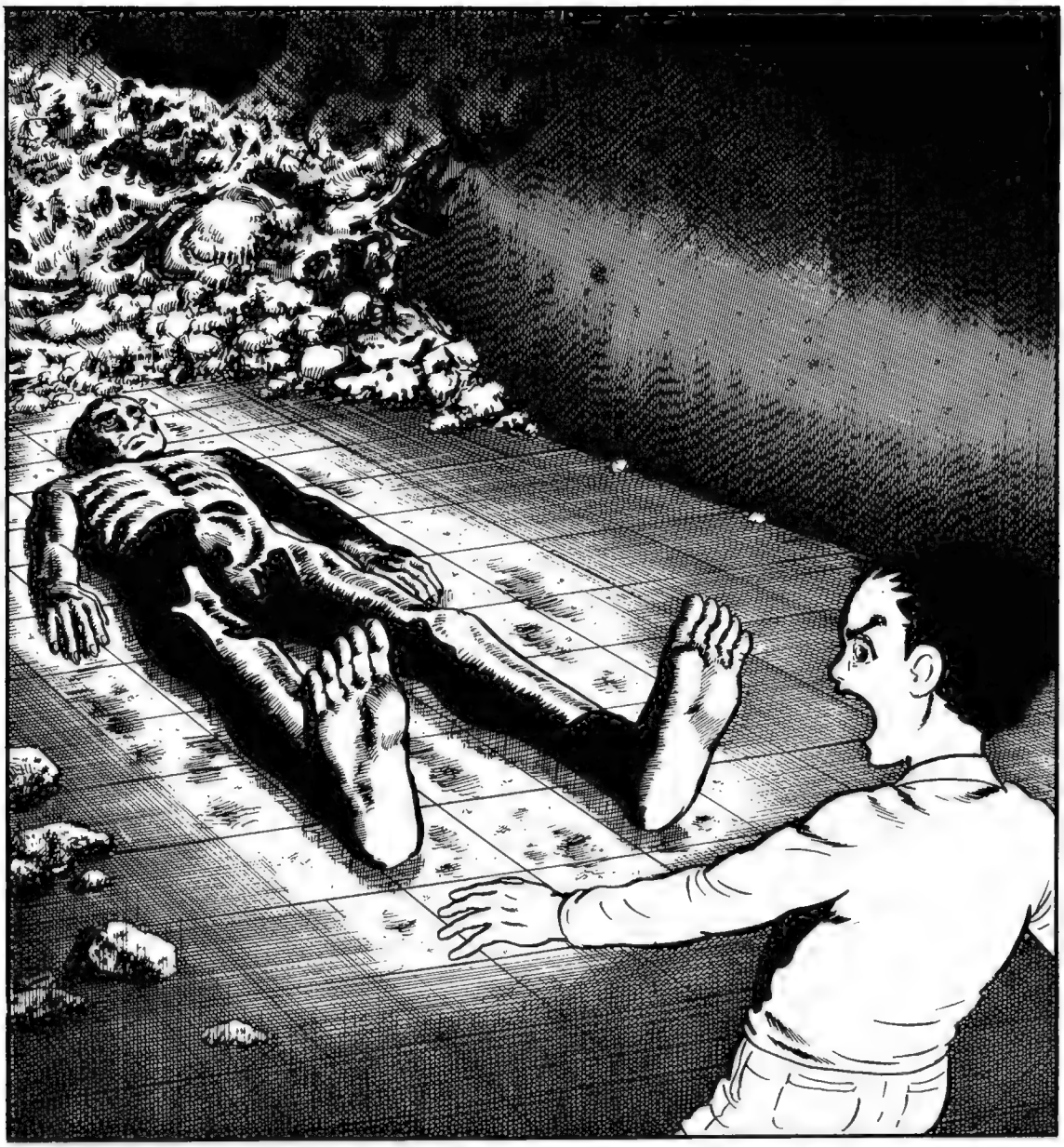




WHOA!


THIS LOOKS LIKE A SAFE!


KRASH



YOU SAW
WHAT!?

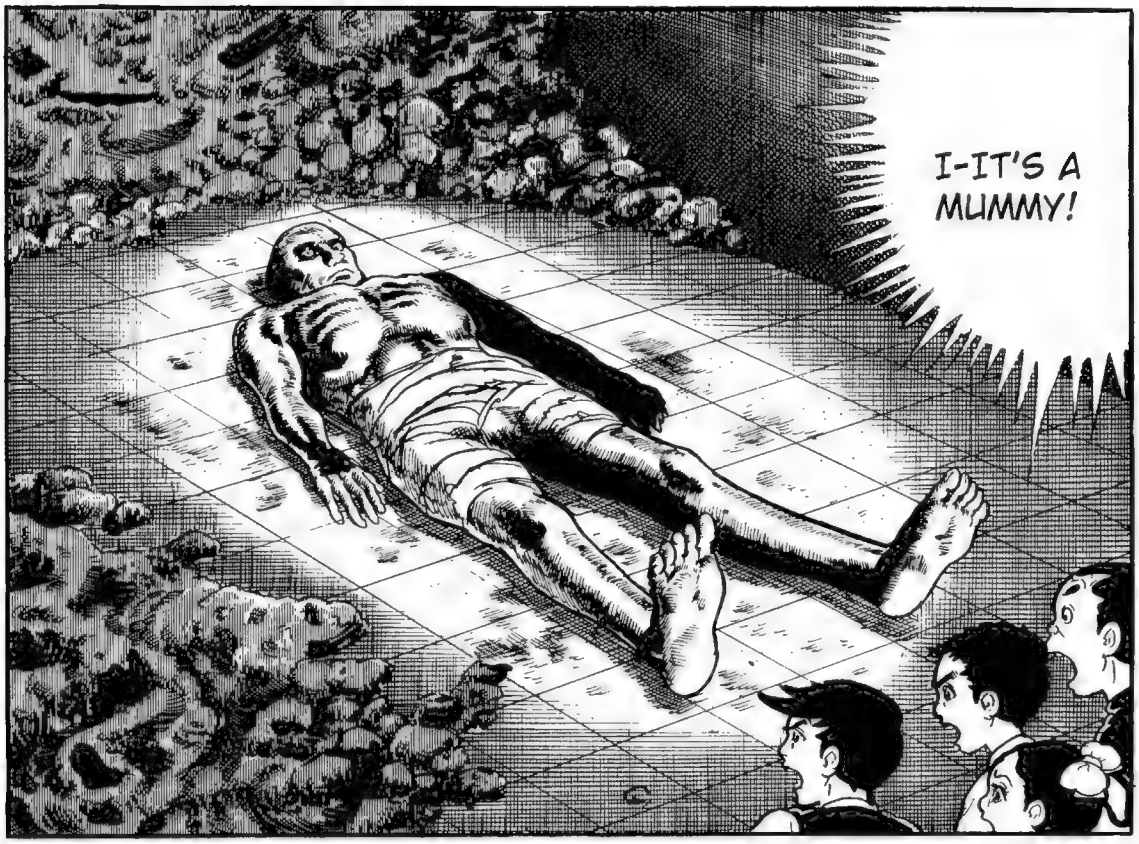
I SAW
SOMEONE!
WHAT
IS IT!?

SH-
SHOW
US!

IT'S
TRUE!

TH-THAT'S
CRAZY!

AHH!


I-IT'S A MUMMY!

SHH...!

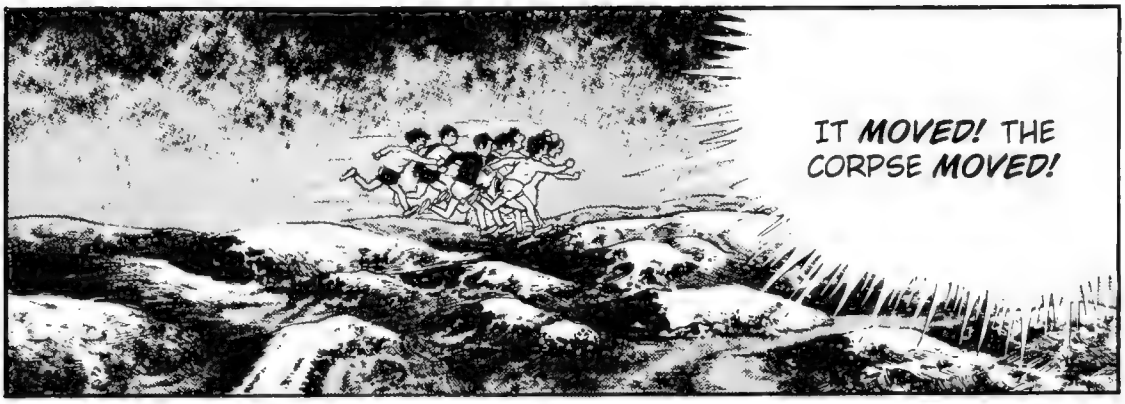
THIS MUST BE THE HOSPITAL MORGUE!

AGGH!!

SKRSH

AGGH!!
IT MOVED!

KRSSH


IT MOVED! THE CORPSE MOVED!

HUFF! HUFF!

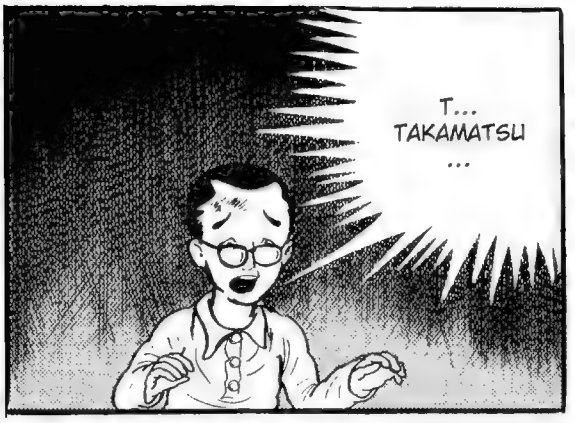
MAYBE IT'S COMING AFTER US...!?
YOU ALL SAW IT! IT MOVED!
PANT... PANT...
SHH!
OH NO, IT'S GETTING DARK!
WHO IS IT...?
S-SOMEONE'S COMING FROM THE SAME DIRECTION WE CAME!
SHUF

SHUF
SHUF
AIEE!

TUH...TUH...
TAKAMATSU!

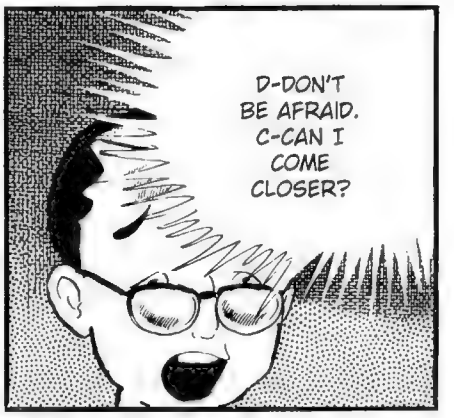
GAMO!

SO YOU
ESCAPED!?


T... TAKAMATSU ...

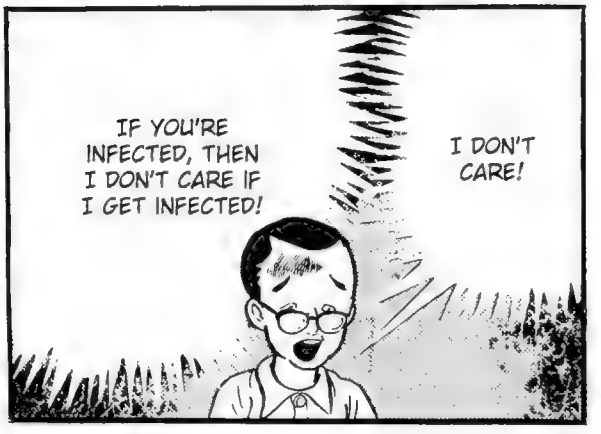
YOU'RE NOT A GHOST, ARE YOU?!

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO SHOULD BE AFRAID!


D-DON'T BE AFRAID. C-CAN I COME CLOSER?

WE'VE GOT THE BLACK PLAGUE! IF YOU GET TOO CLOSE, YOU'LL CATCH IT TOO!

TAKAMATSU ...!
BUT GAMO! YOU SHOULDN'T ...!

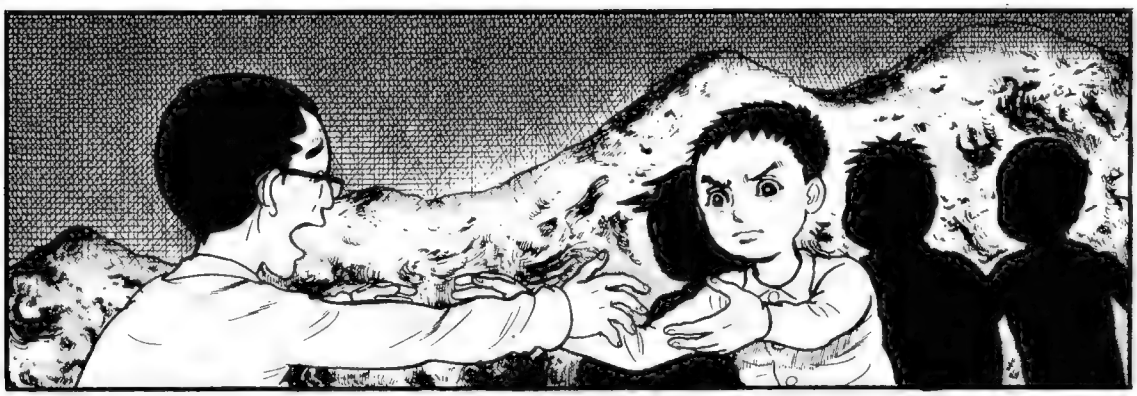

IF YOU'RE INFECTED, THEN I DON'T CARE IF I GET INFECTED!
I DON'T CARE!

GAMO!

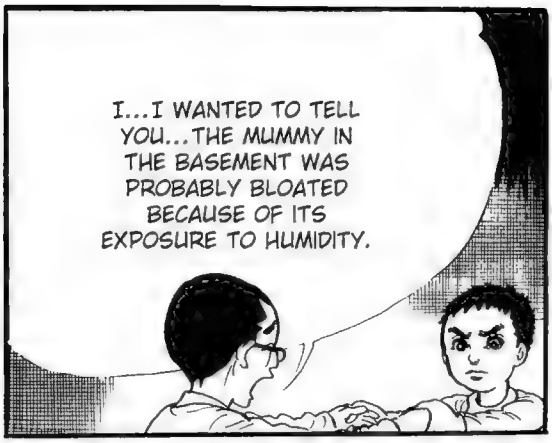
THAT'S WHY I MADE IT THIS FAR.
YOU CAN'T STOP ME! I'M GOING TO JOIN YOU.

SHO!

IF YOU REALLY MEAN IT...THEN COME HERE!



THANK YOU!


I...I WANTED TO TELL YOU...THE MUMMY IN THE BASEMENT WAS PROBABLY BLOATED BECAUSE OF ITS EXPOSURE TO HUMIDITY.

TH...THAT'S WHAT MADE IT MOVE.

GAMO! GAMO!

AH!

WE HAVE TO DIG A HOLE FOR SHELTER!

IT'S GETTING DARKER AND DARKER! WE'LL FREEZE TO DEATH IF WE DON'T DO SOMETHING!

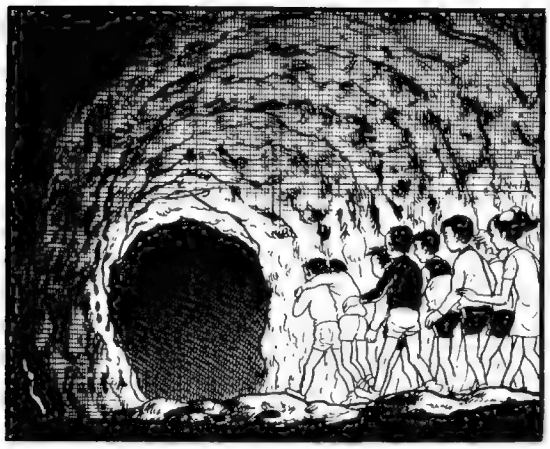
EVERYTHING ELSE HAS CRUMBLED TO DUST, BUT THAT BASEMENT MANAGED TO PRESERVE THAT MUMMY! WHICH MEANS IT'S SAFE THERE!

WHAT!?

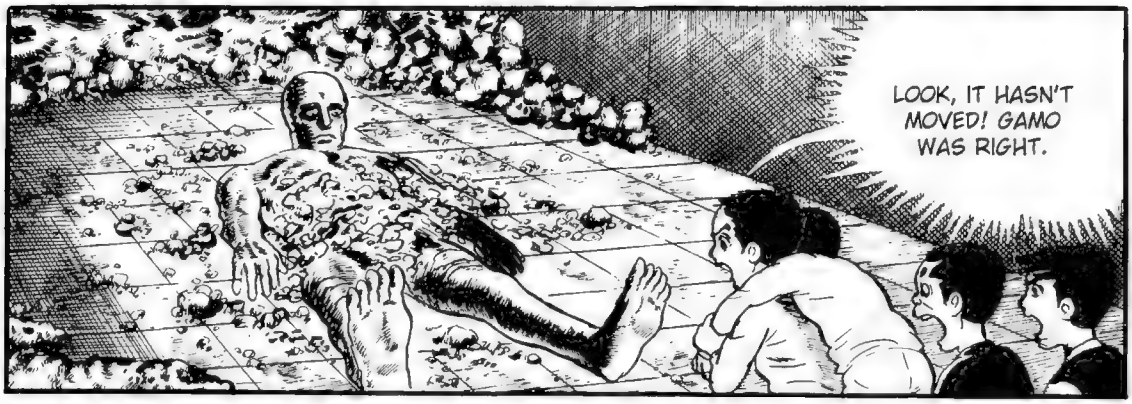
THAT'LL TAKE TOO LONG. THE ONLY SHELTER WE HAVE IS THAT MUMMY'S BASEMENT!

WE'LL GET RID OF THE MUMMY BEFORE WE SPEND THE NIGHT.

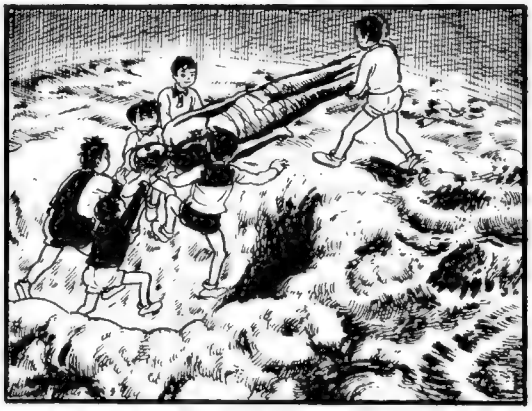
LET'S GO!



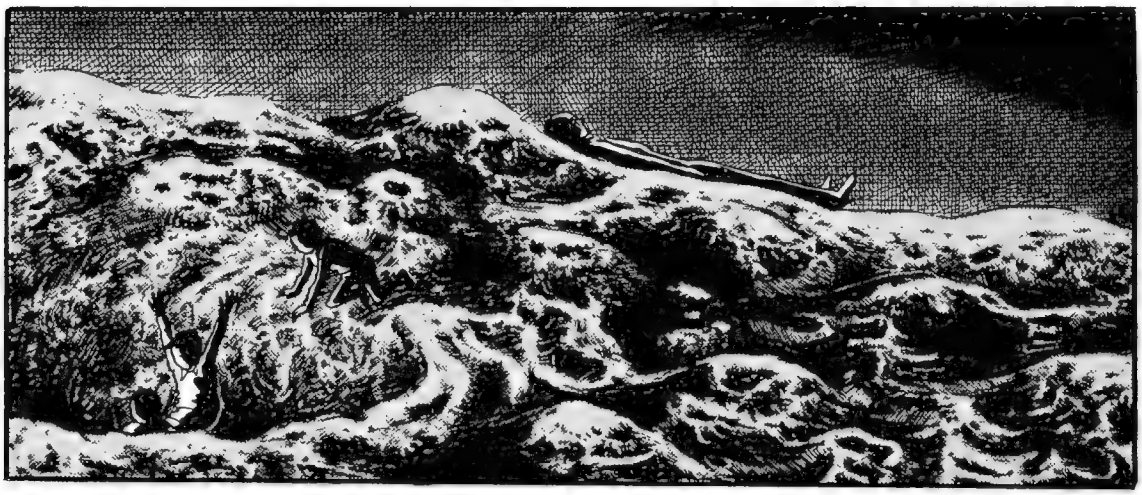
BE CAREFUL, TAKAMATSU!

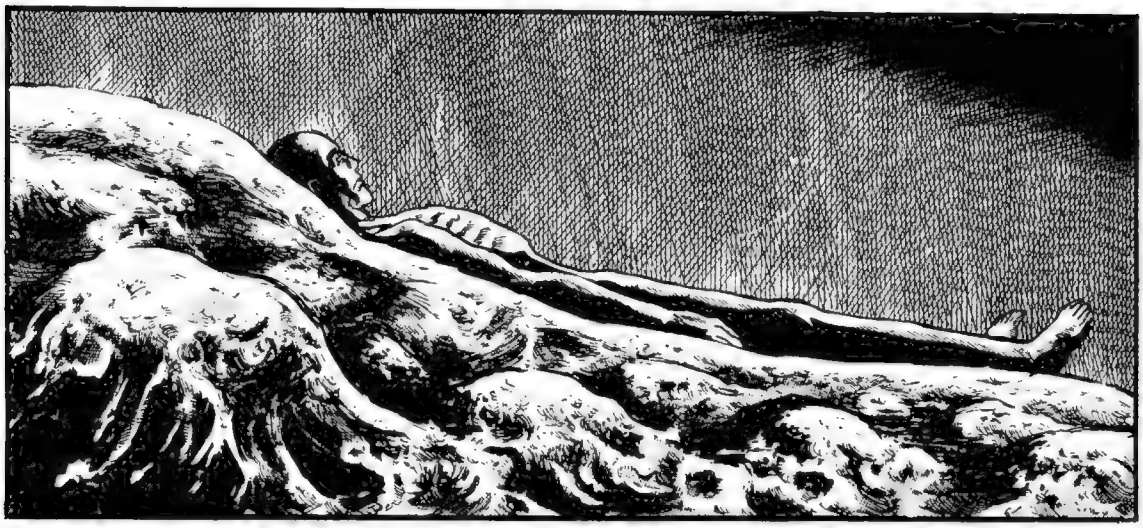

LOOK, IT HASN'T MOVED! GAMO WAS RIGHT.

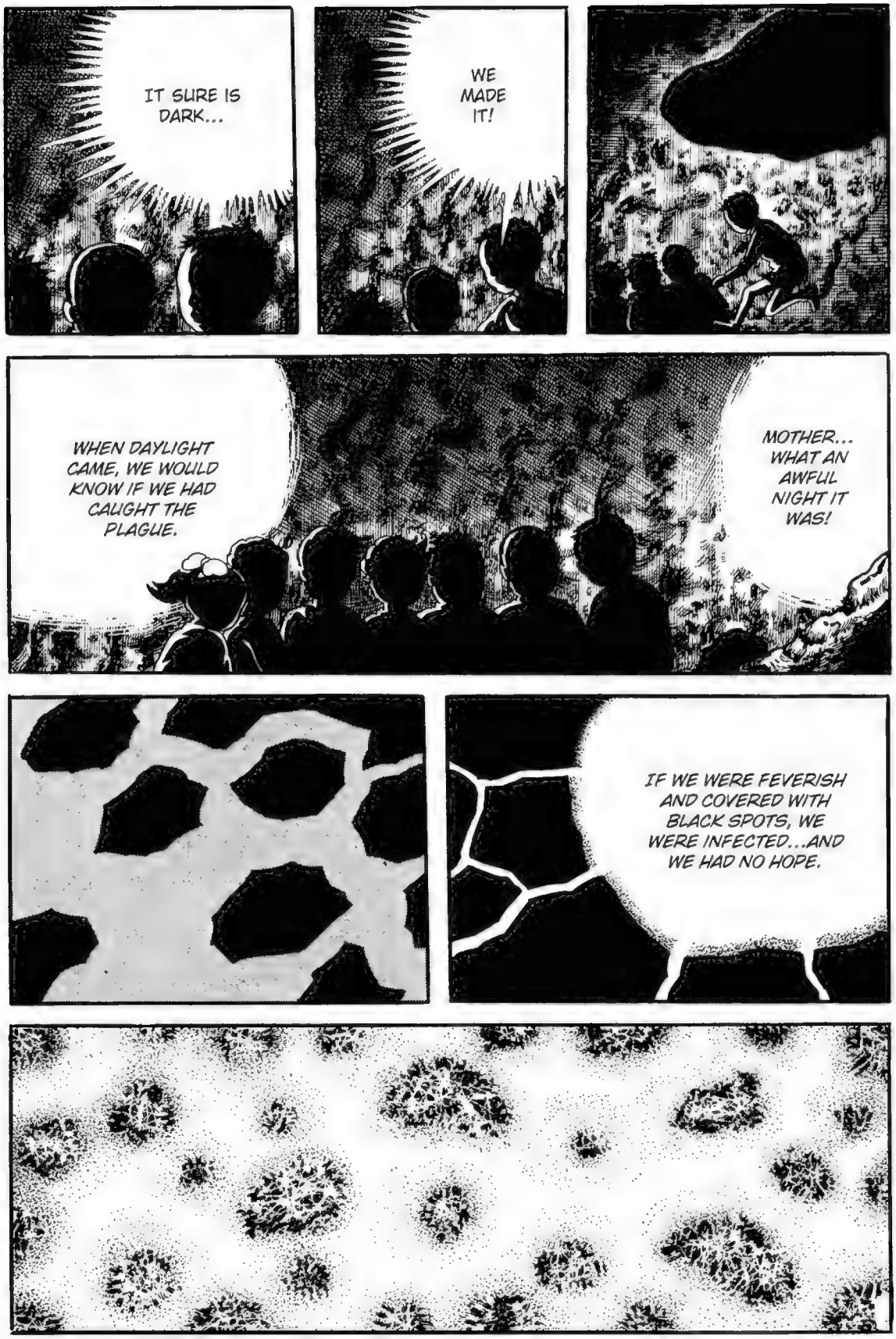
HURRY, IT'S GETTING DARK!



FWUMP






IT SURE IS DARK...
WE MADE IT!
WHEN DAYLIGHT CAME, WE WOULD KNOW IF WE HAD CAUGHT THE PLAGUE.
MOTHER... WHAT AN AWFUL NIGHT IT WAS!
IF WE WERE FEVERISH AND COVERED WITH BLACK SPOTS, WE WERE INFECTED...AND WE HAD NO HOPE.

IT'S MORNING!

CHECK YOURSELVES FOR BLACK SPOTS!
DOES ANYONE HAVE A FEVER?

HUH? ALREADY ...?

WE WEREN'T INFECTED!

ME TOO!
NO FEVER, NO SPOTS! LOOK!

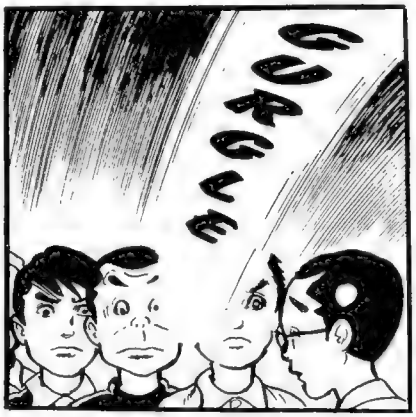
HURRAY!

WE THOUGHT YOU WERE DEAD!

GAMO!?

WHAT TIME IS IT?
HUH!?

NO...UH...MY STOMACH IS ALIVE AND WELL...AND WE'RE STILL ON THIS BARREN, FUTURE EARTH...!


GURGLE

UM...ER...WELL, WE SOMEHOW MADE IT. BUT NOW WHAT DO WE DO?
YOU DO!? WHERE!?
HUH?!
I KNOW WHERE WE CAN FIND FOOD!
WE STILL NEED FOOD AND WATER...!
THE MUMMY ?!
WHAT?!
THAT MUMMY ...!
SHIBATA'S RIGHT! WE CAN'T DO THAT...NOT WHILE THERE'S ANY OTHER CHOICE!
B-BUT IT'S HUMAN!
I'M SERIOUS. HUMAN FLESH IS FULL OF PROTEIN. AND IT'S NOT LIKE WE KILLED HIM.

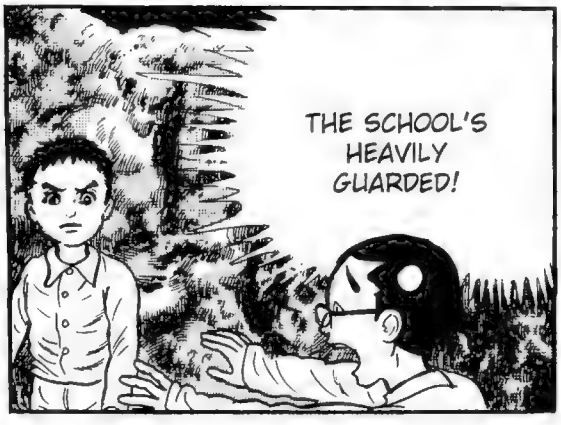
THE PLAGUE MIGHT HAVE SPREAD THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL!
I'M WORRIED ABOUT YU, NISHI AND THE OTHERS!

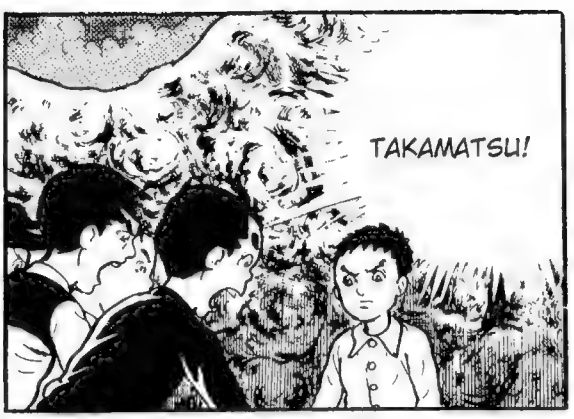
WE HAVE TO HURRY BACK AND QUARANTINE ANYONE WHO CAME INTO CONTACT WITH HASHIMOTO!

N-N-NO! DON'T DO IT!

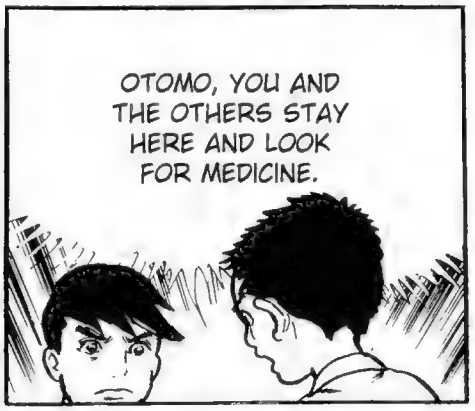
I'M HEADING BACK TO THE SCHOOL!
WE ALSO NEED FOOD AND WATER!

THEY KILL ANYONE WHO TRIES TO LEAVE!


THE SCHOOL'S HEAVILY GUARDED!


TAKAMATSU!

I HAVE TO FIND A WAY TO GET IN!
BUT WE HAVE TO STOP THE PLAGUE...!


OTOMO, YOU AND THE OTHERS STAY HERE AND LOOK FOR MEDICINE.

OKAY!
I WANT YOU TO KEEP WATCH AND MAKE SURE I GET INSIDE. I'M APPOINTING YOU CHIEF OF MEDICAL AFFAIRS!

LET'S GO!

GOT IT!

I'LL BE ALL RIGHT!

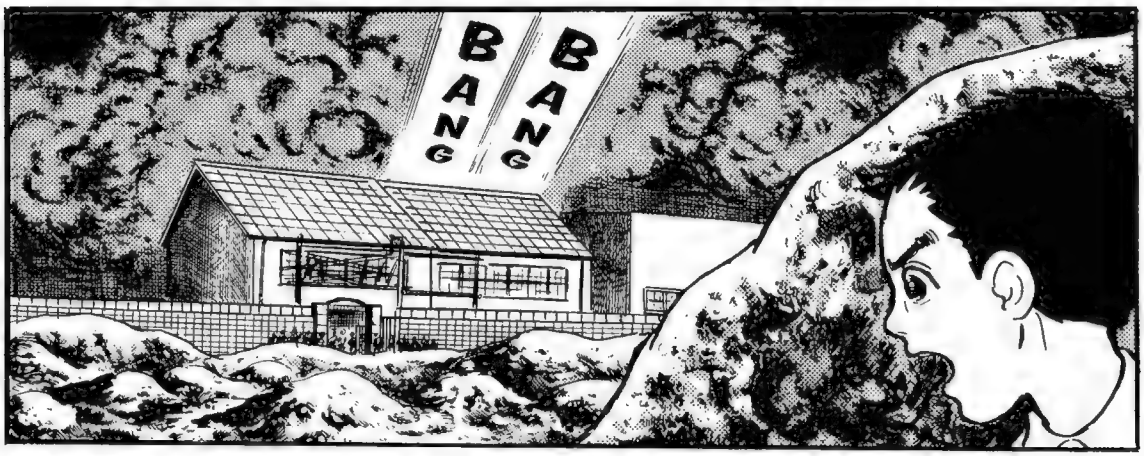
SHO, BE CAREFUL!

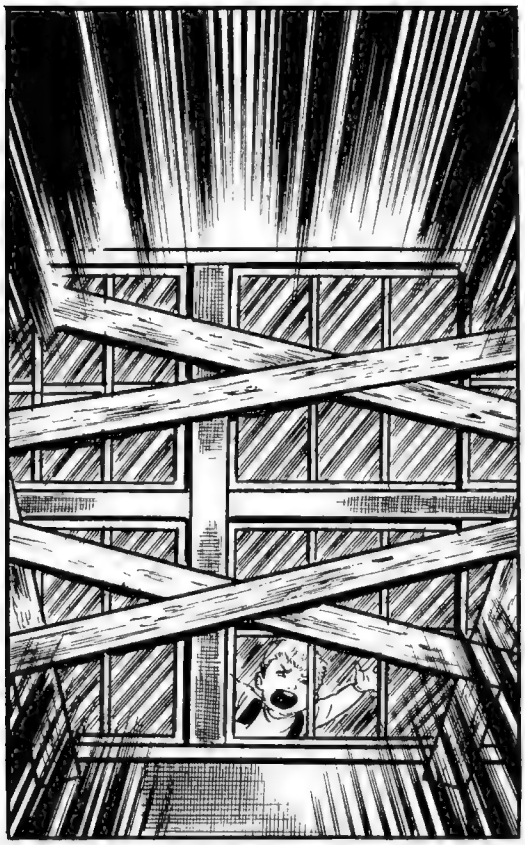
THERE'S THE SCHOOL!

AHA!

COME ON, LET'S GET CLOSER.

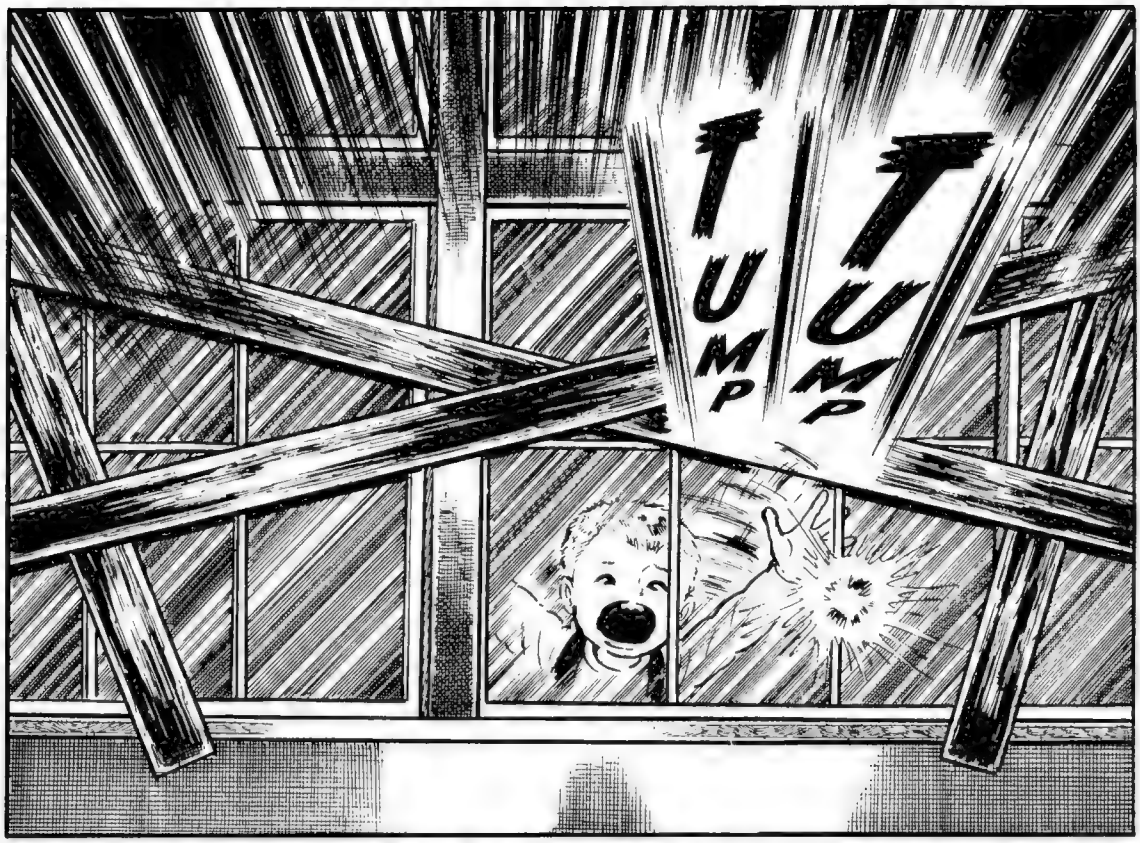
BANG
BANG
WHAT ARE THEY DOING...?


BANG
BANG



BANG
BANG

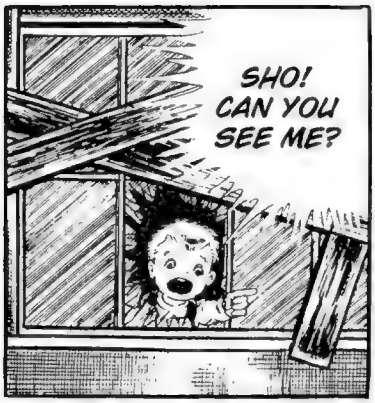
OH MY GOD! IT'S YU!


TUMP
TUMP

KRASH

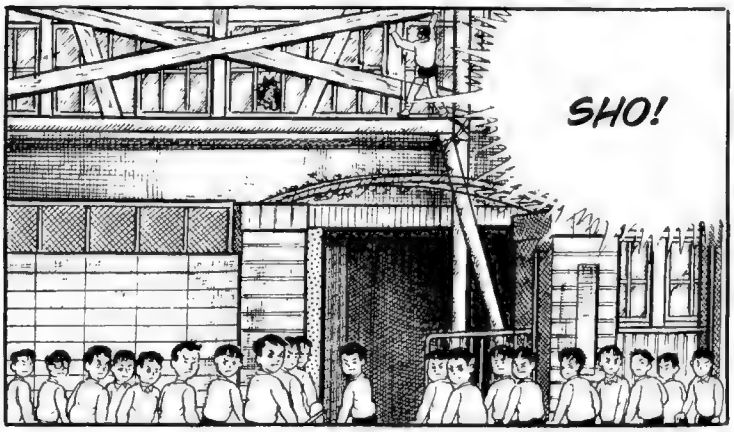
TUMP
TUMP

YAHH
YAHH

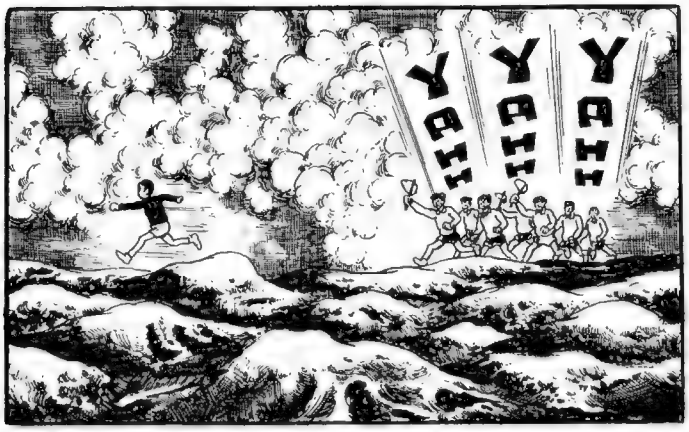

SHO! CAN YOU SEE ME?

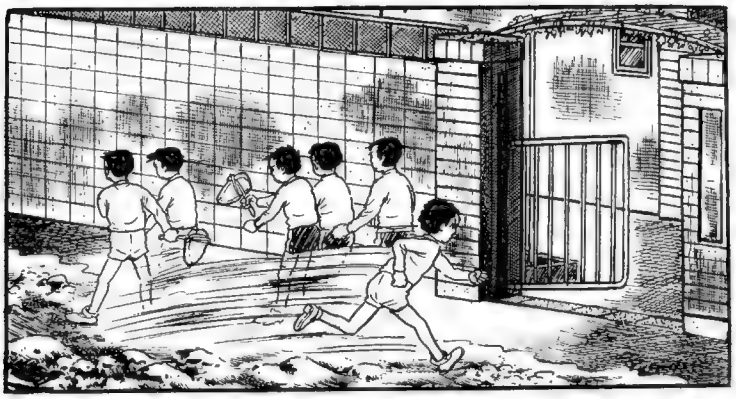
HEY SHO! IT'S ME!

LOOK, IT'S SHO!


SHO!

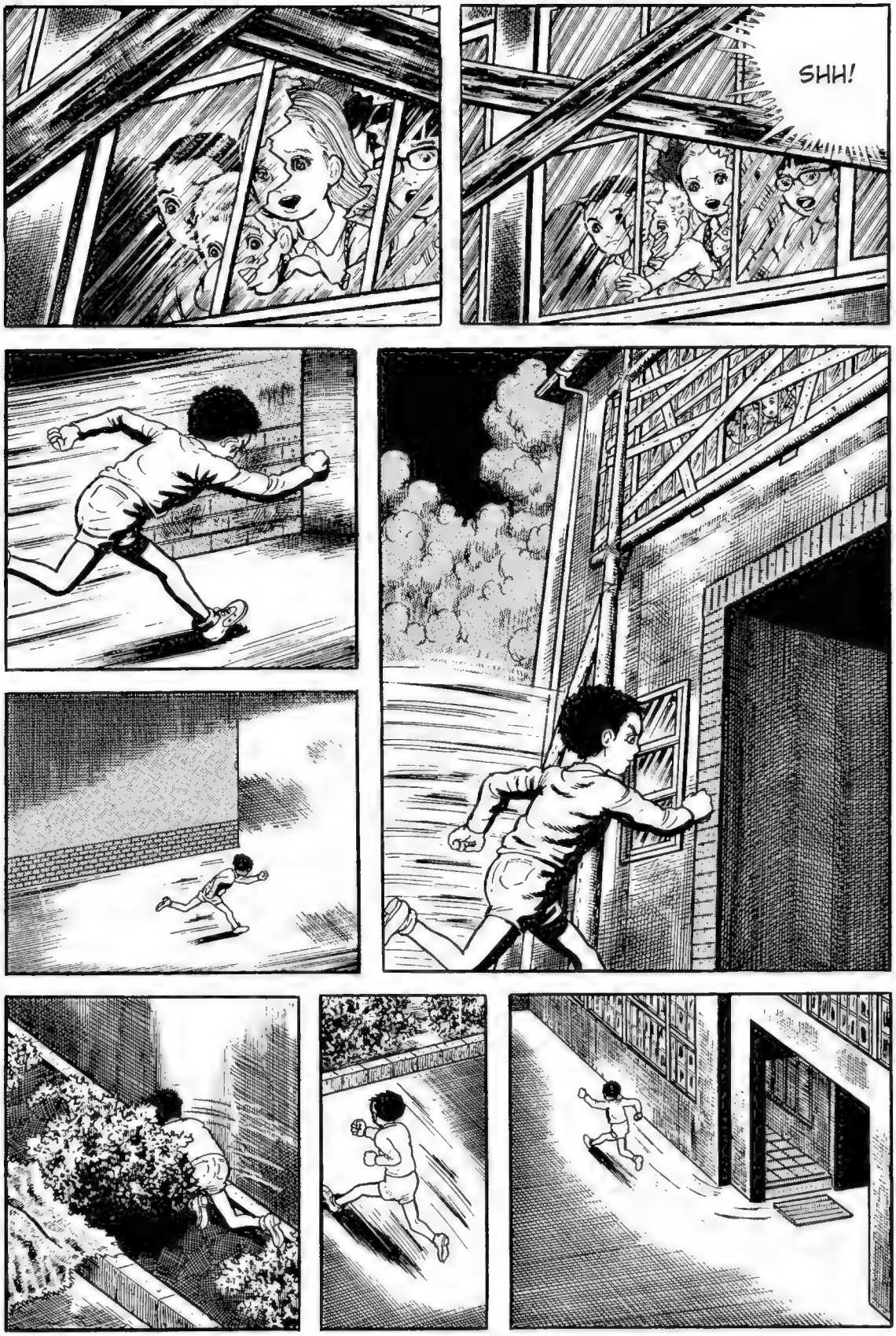
HELP MEE!





CHAPTER 22

THE BEASTS


SHH!

I MADE IT!
I'M SAFE!

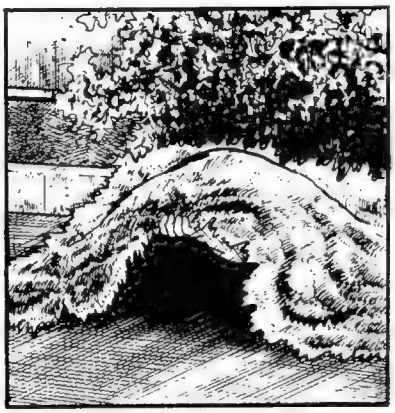
HUFF
HUFF!

HUH?!

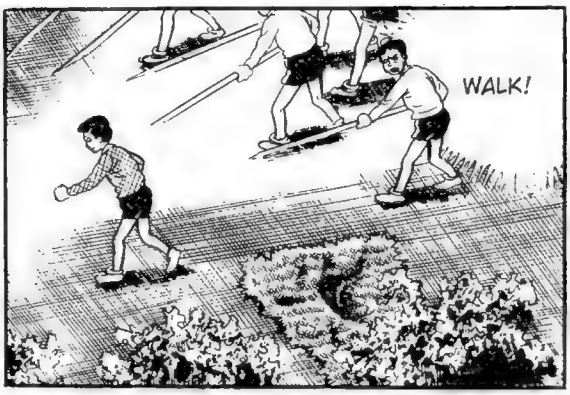
COME
OUT!

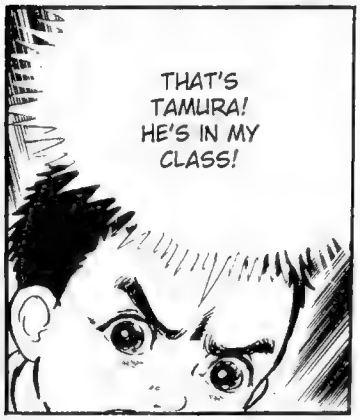
WE KNOW
YOU'RE HIDING
THERE!

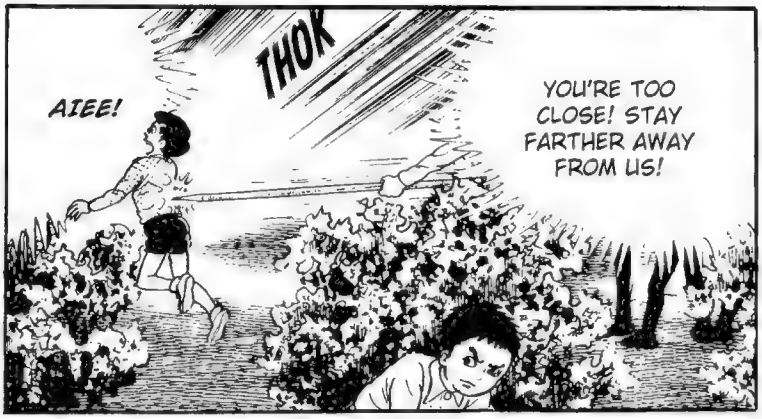
GET UP OR WE'LL STAB YOU!



OWW!
THOK


WALK!

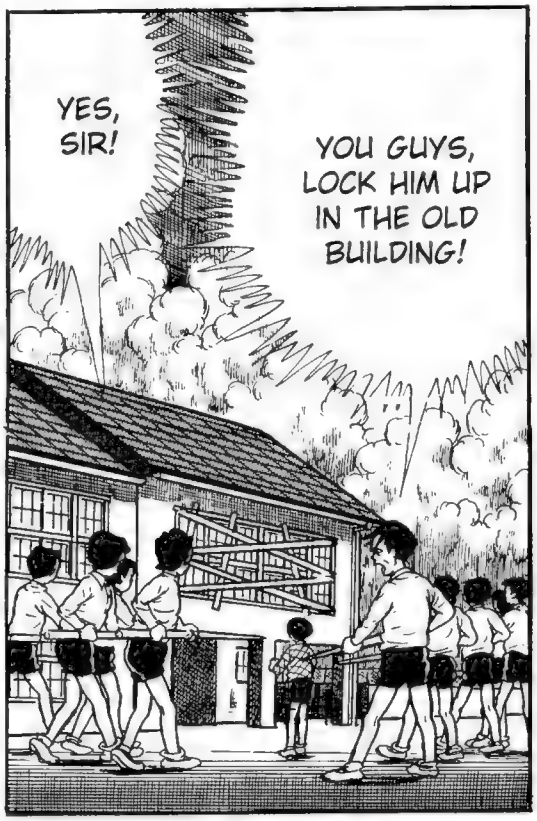

THAT'S TAMURA! HE'S IN MY CLASS!


THOK
AIEE!
YOU'RE TOO CLOSE! STAY FARTHER AWAY FROM US!

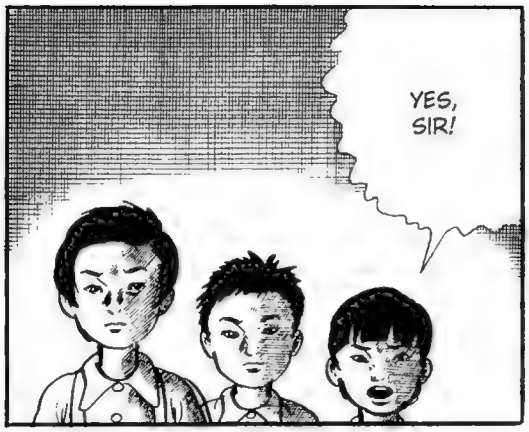
WE KNOW YOU'RE ONE OF SHO TAKAMATSU'S CLASSMATES!
YOU'RE INFECTED!

THERE'S NO ONE ELSE CONNECTED TO SHO, RIGHT!?

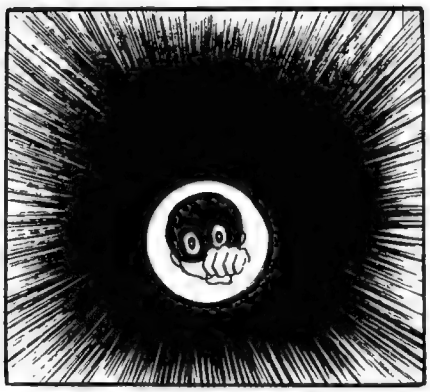
NO, SIR... HE WAS THE LAST ONE.


YES, SIR!
YOU GUYS, LOCK HIM UP IN THE OLD BUILDING!

GOOD. WE'VE GOT EVERY SUSPICIOUS PERSON QUARANTINED!


YES, SIR!

HEY, KID! COME HERE WITH THAT TOWEL! I'M SWEATY!

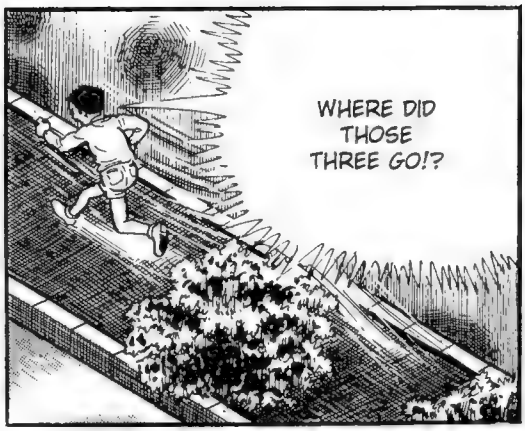


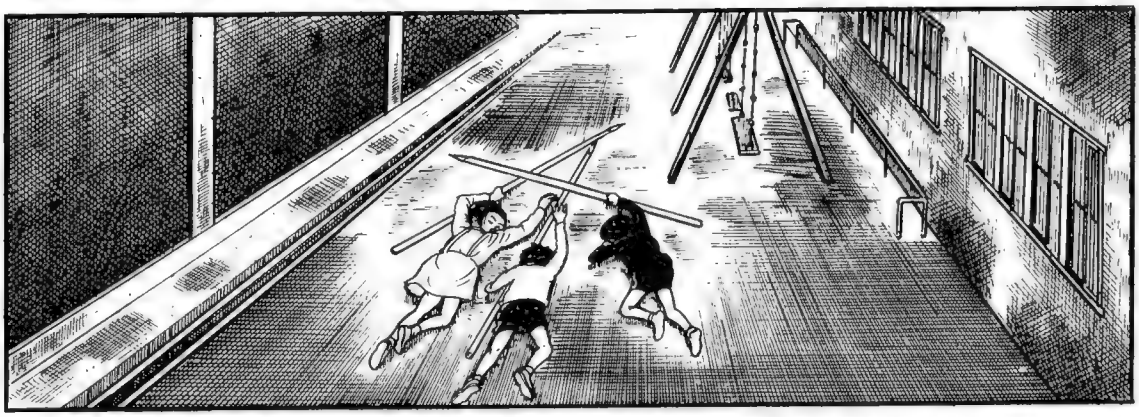
A MANGA BADGE...!

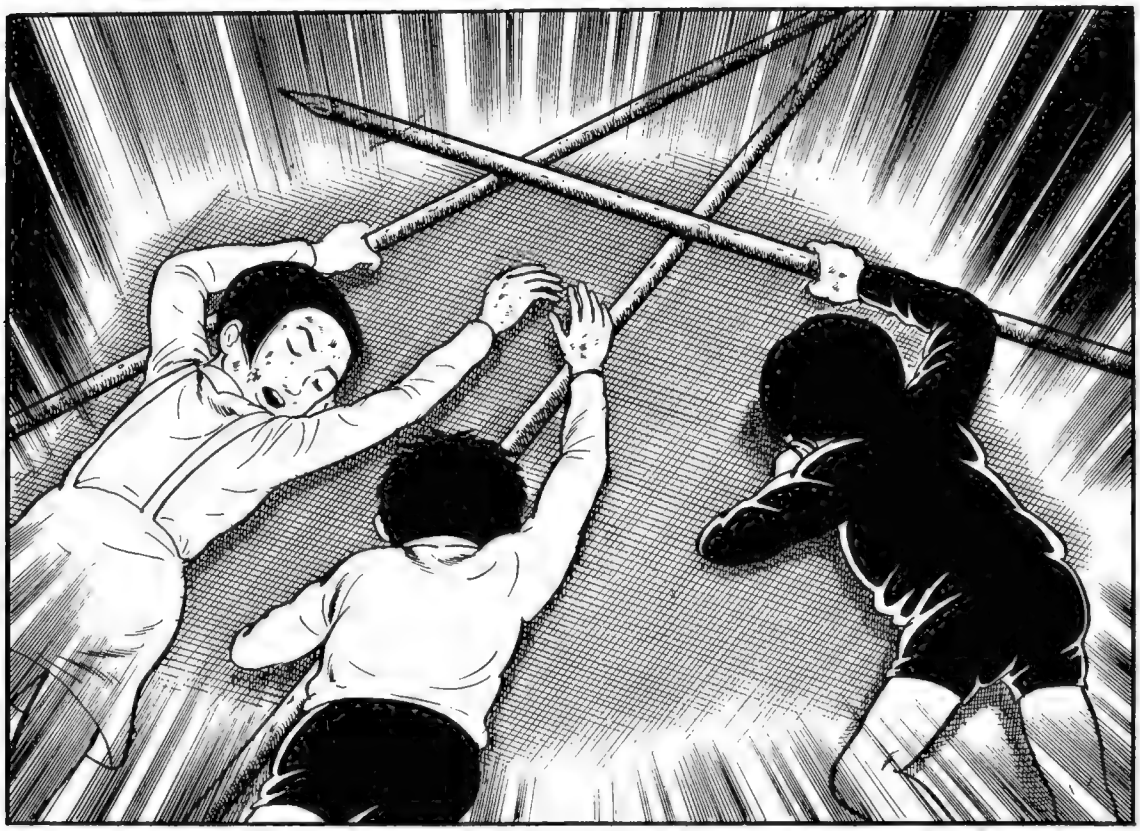
THAT'S ENOUGH! GO JOIN THE OTHERS!
MAYBE HE'S THE ONE WHO'S INFECTED...!
ALL RIGHT!
AH!
WHAT IS IT, SIR?

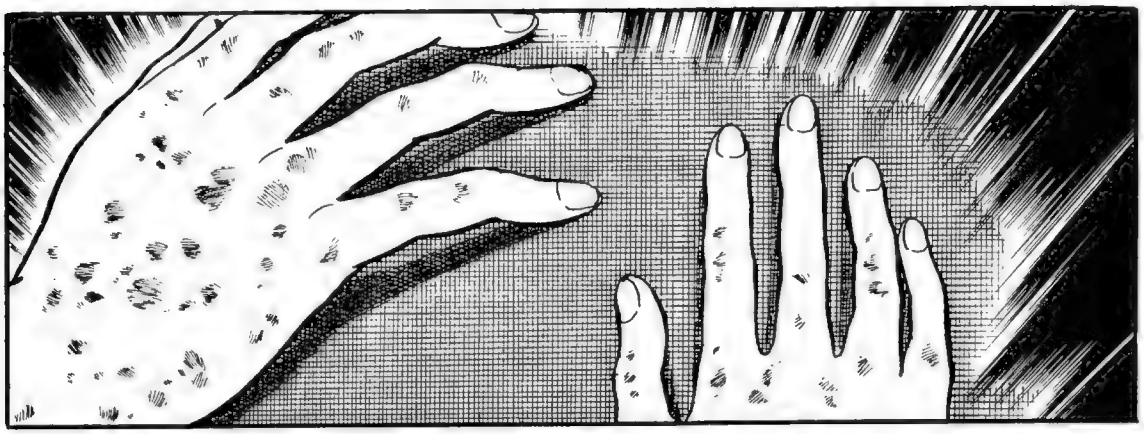
I'M A LITTLE DIZZY!
I DON'T FEEL TOO GOOD EITHER...
HAH, IT'S NOTHING! JUST A COLD!
HOLD ON! YOU DON'T HAVE A FEVER, DO YOU?!
SH-SHUT UP!
M-MAYBE WE'RE INFECTED!
THAT'LL REDUCE THE SCHOOL POPULATION BY HALF! THEN WE'LL HAVE TWICE AS MUCH FOOD!
WE NEED TO START A FIRE AND BURN DOWN THE BUILDING WITH ALL THE SICK PEOPLE!
IT'S SPREADING!
THEY'RE ALL INFECTED! I WAS TOO LATE!
YES, SIR!
NOW GET TO IT!

AH!


WHERE DID THOSE THREE GO!?

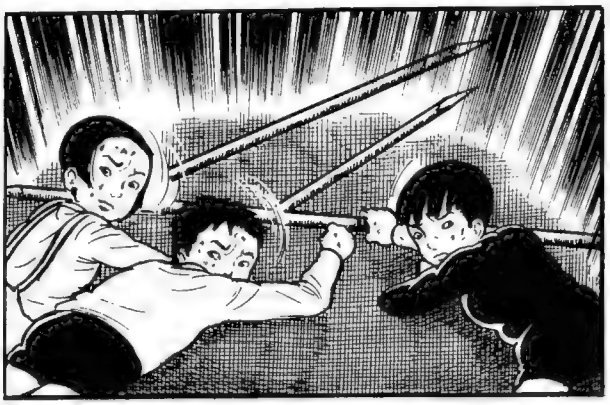






I KNEW IT!
TH-THEY'RE INFECTED!

SH-SHO!



WE KNOW WE'RE INFECTED!
WAIT! DON'T TELL ANYONE! PLEASE HELP US!

SO YOU'RE THE ONES WHO TOUCHED HASHIMOTO!

THEY ALREADY SAID THAT EVERYONE INFECTED WOULD BE KILLED!
BY THE TIME WE FOUND OUT WE HAD THE PLAGUE...

WE WERE SCARED!
WHY DIDN'T YOU LEAVE THE SCHOOL WITH US!?

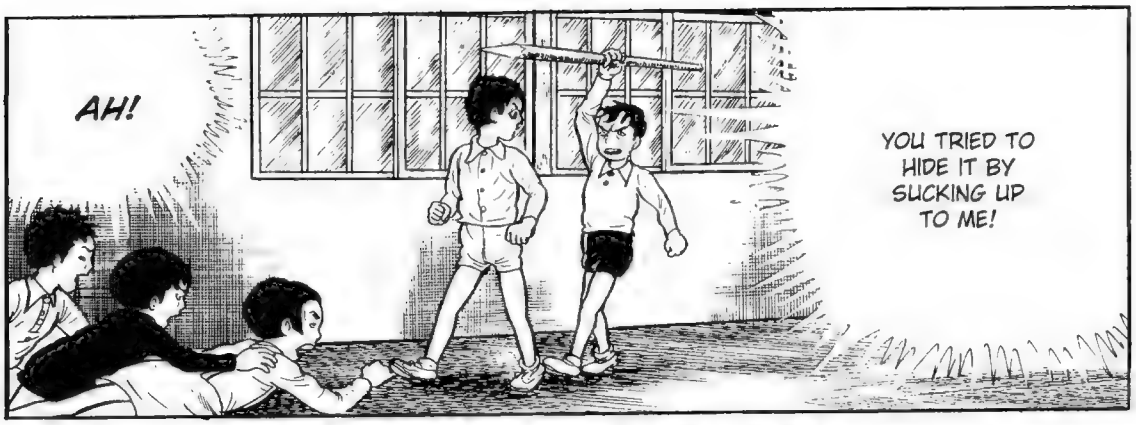
BUT IT'S HOPELESS NOW! LOOK AT THESE BLACK SPOTS. IT'S SPREAD ALL OVER THE SCHOOL.

THE NEW LEADER IS TERRIFYING! ME AND MY BROTHERS WOULD HAVE BEEN KILLED!

YOU WERE JUST TRYING TO BE NICE BY HELPING HASHIMOTO, WEREN'T YOU...?
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT...

NNH...!

IF YOU HADN'T HELPED HASHIMOTO, NO ONE WOULD HAVE BEEN INFECTED...!
ALWAYS BE KIND TO OTHERS...THAT'S WHAT THEY TAUGHT US IN SCHOOL!
I DON'T WANT TO DIE!
PLEASE!
TH-THERE MUST BE A CURE!
SOB...!
IF YOU CAN'T SAVE ME, SAVE MY BROTHERS!
DON'T ABANDON US!
DON'T GO!
SO YOU BRATS ARE THE ONES WHO SPREAD THE PLAGUE!
SIS!

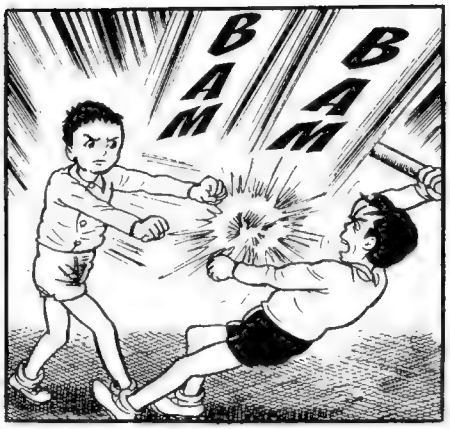

AH!
YOU TRIED TO HIDE IT BY SUCKING UP TO ME!

STOP!

YOU FUCKERS INFECTED ME!

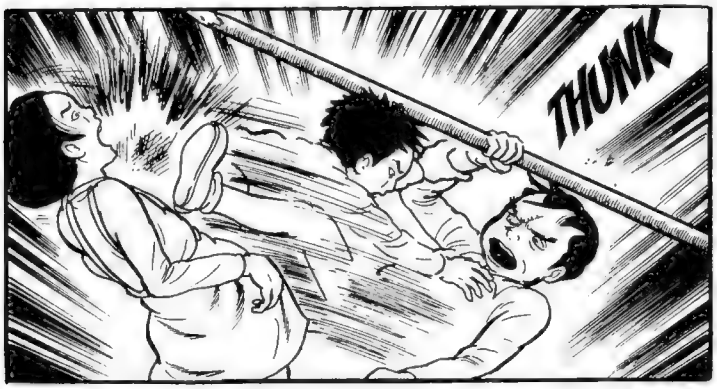
HA! I TOUCHED YOU!

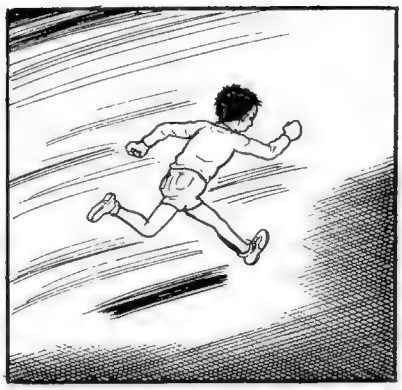
IT'S TOO LATE! I TOUCHED YOU! NOW YOU'RE INFECTED!


BAM
BAM

RAAGH!

YOU HAVE TO GO RESCUE EVERYONE IN THE BUILDING! THEY'RE GOING TO BURN IT DOWN!
HURRY, SHO!


THUNK

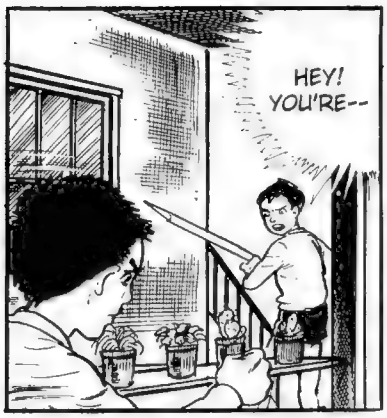


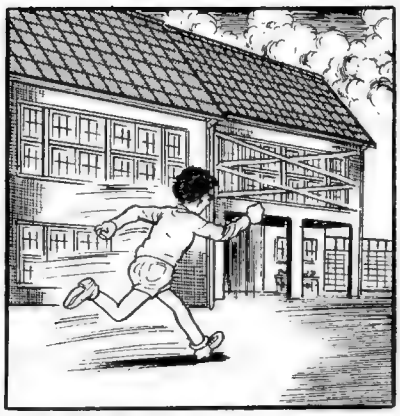
KILL HIM!

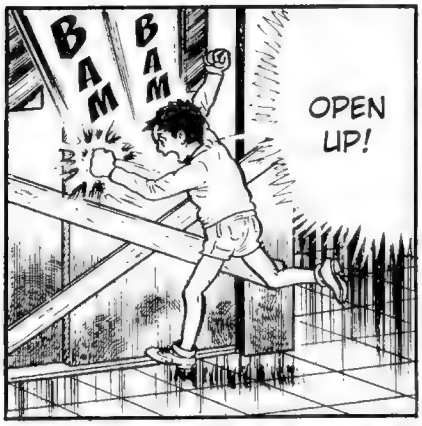
I-I'M OKAY!

SIS! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

KRAK
AGGH!
UGH!
IF I'M INFECTED, I'M GONNA MAKE SURE EVERYONE'S INFECTED!
NO!
GET OFF ME!
THOK
KUNCH

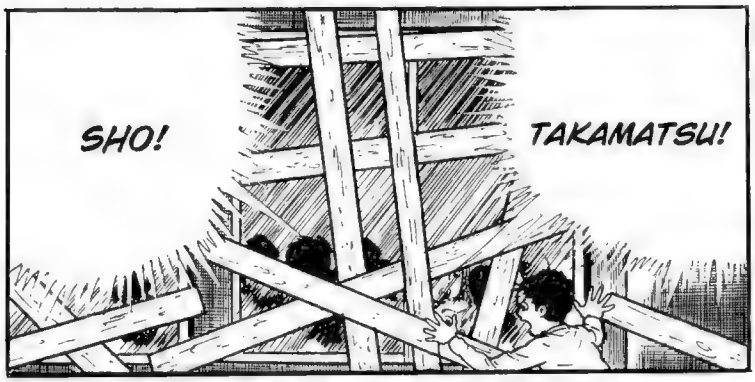

HEY! YOU'RE--




BAM
BAM
OPEN UP!

D-D-D-

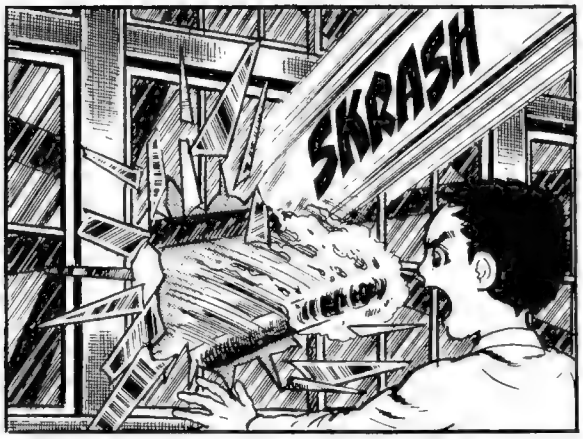
WHOM


SHO!
TAKAMATSU!

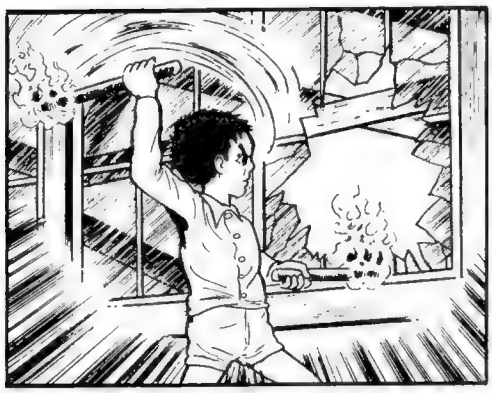
IT'S ME, TAKAMATSU!

OH NO! SMOKE ...!

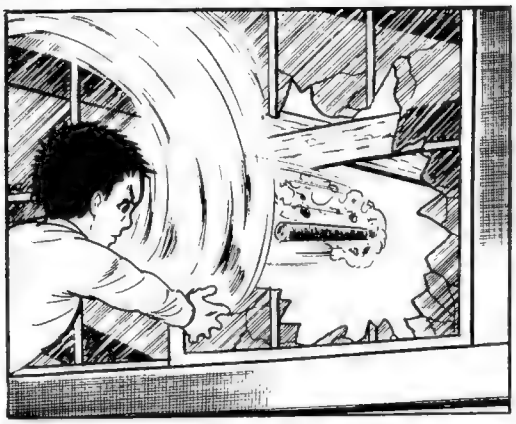
SHO! YOU'RE HERE!



RAA RAA



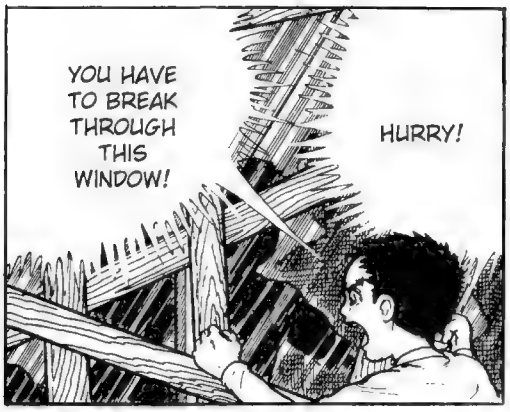
THEY'RE GOING TO BURN US ALIVE!



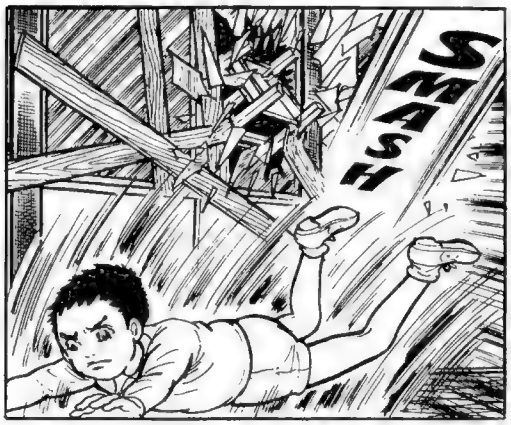
HMPH!

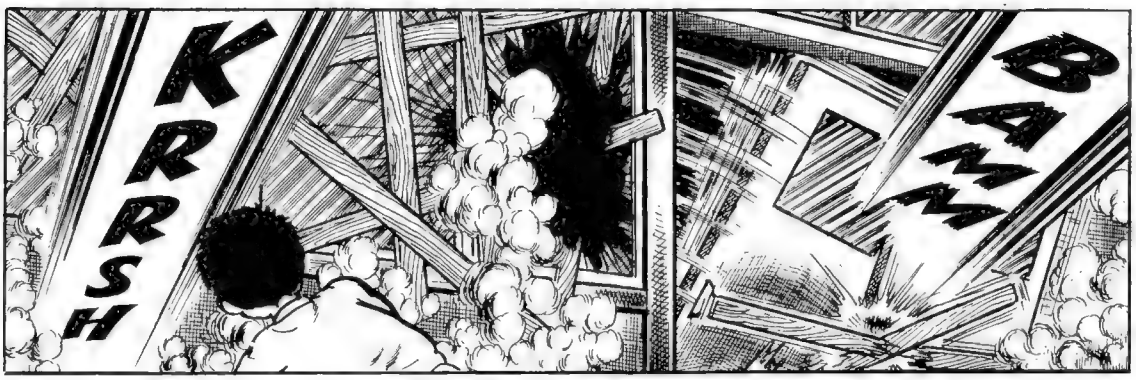
DON'T LET THEM ESCAPE!
GO ON, BURN IT DOWN!

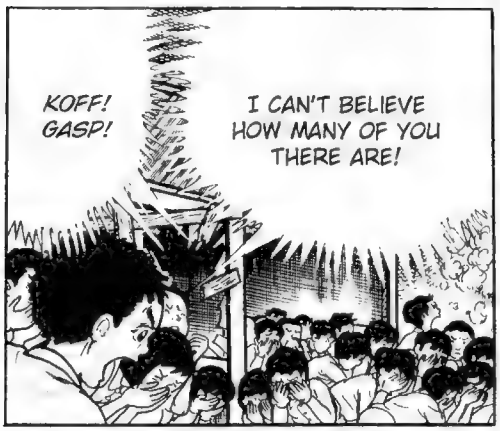
BAHH
WE HAVE TO INCINERATE THEM! THEY'RE THE PLAGUE!


YOU HAVE TO BREAK THROUGH THIS WINDOW!
HURRY!

TAKAMATSU! HELP!


SMASH

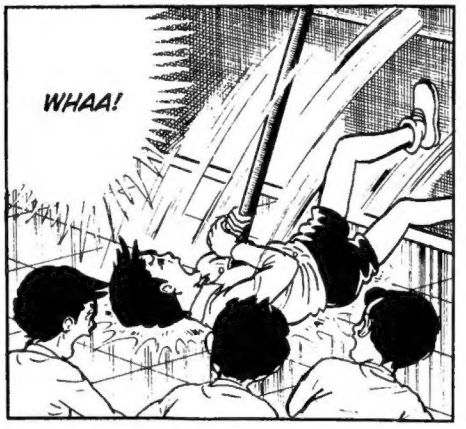

KRRRSH
BAMM

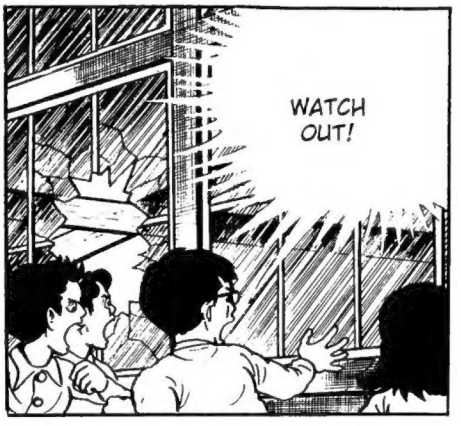

KOFF! GASP!
I CAN'T BELIEVE HOW MANY OF YOU THERE ARE!

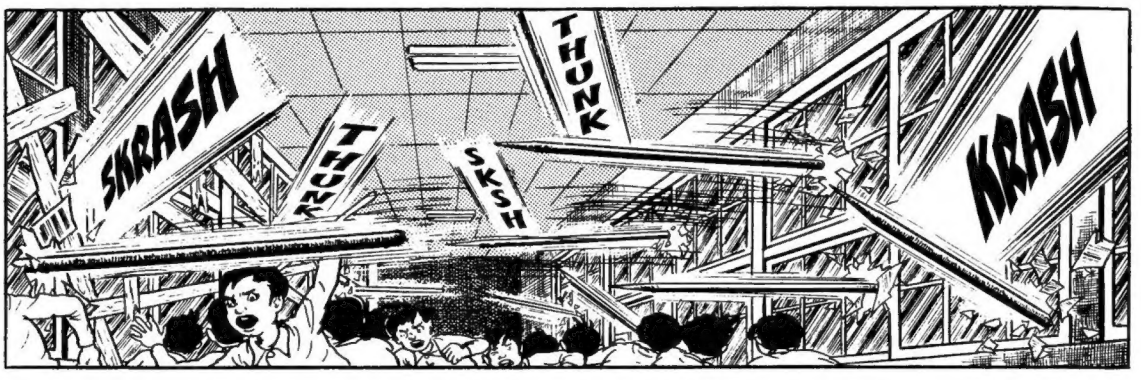
KOFF! KOFF!

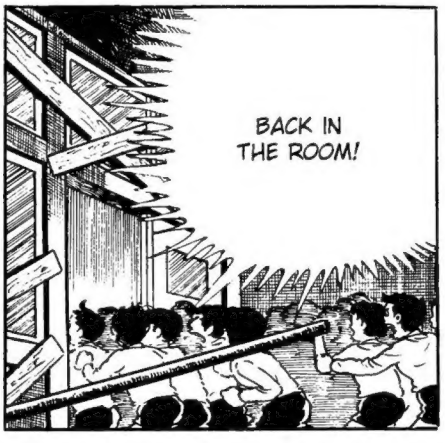
YU! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
SHO! PLEASE HOLD ONTO YU!
NISHI!
AAH--!
NISHI!
SHO! YOU CAME...!
JUMP OUT THE WINDOW!
THE STAIRS ARE ON FIRE!
COME ON!
AGGH!
STAB

AIEE!
KRASH

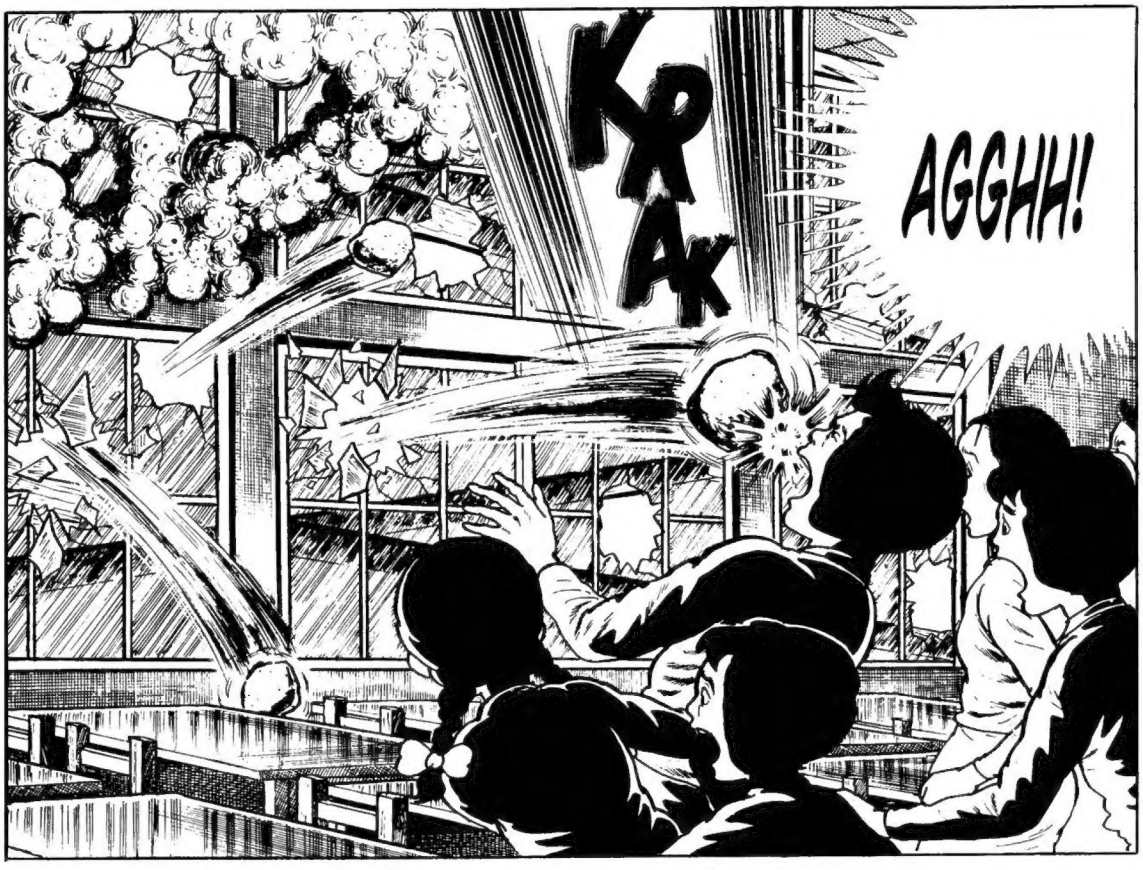

WHAA!

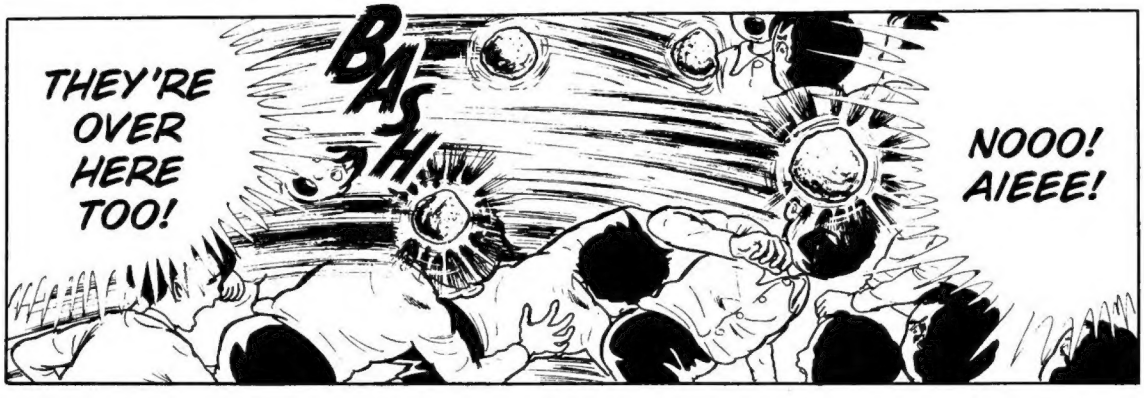

WATCH OUT!

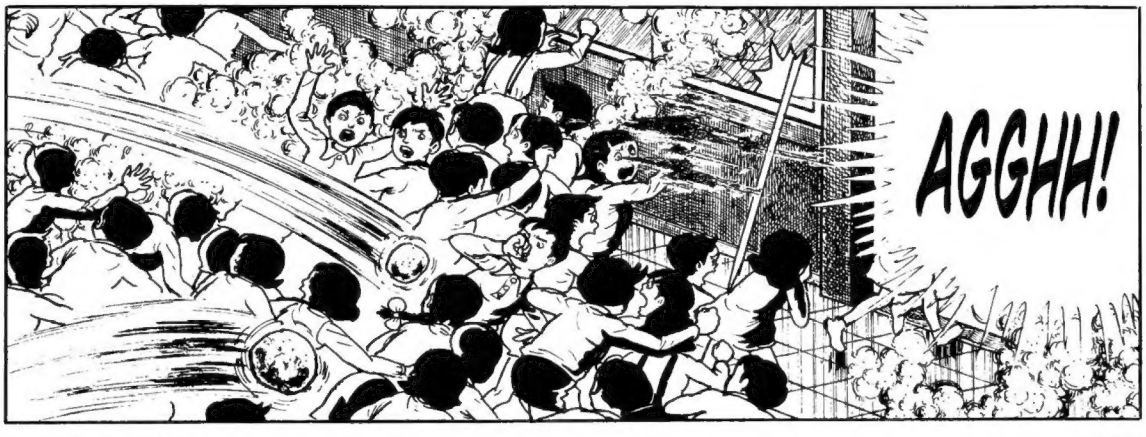

SKRASH
THUNK
SKSH
THUNK
KRASH


BACK IN THE ROOM!

AIEE!

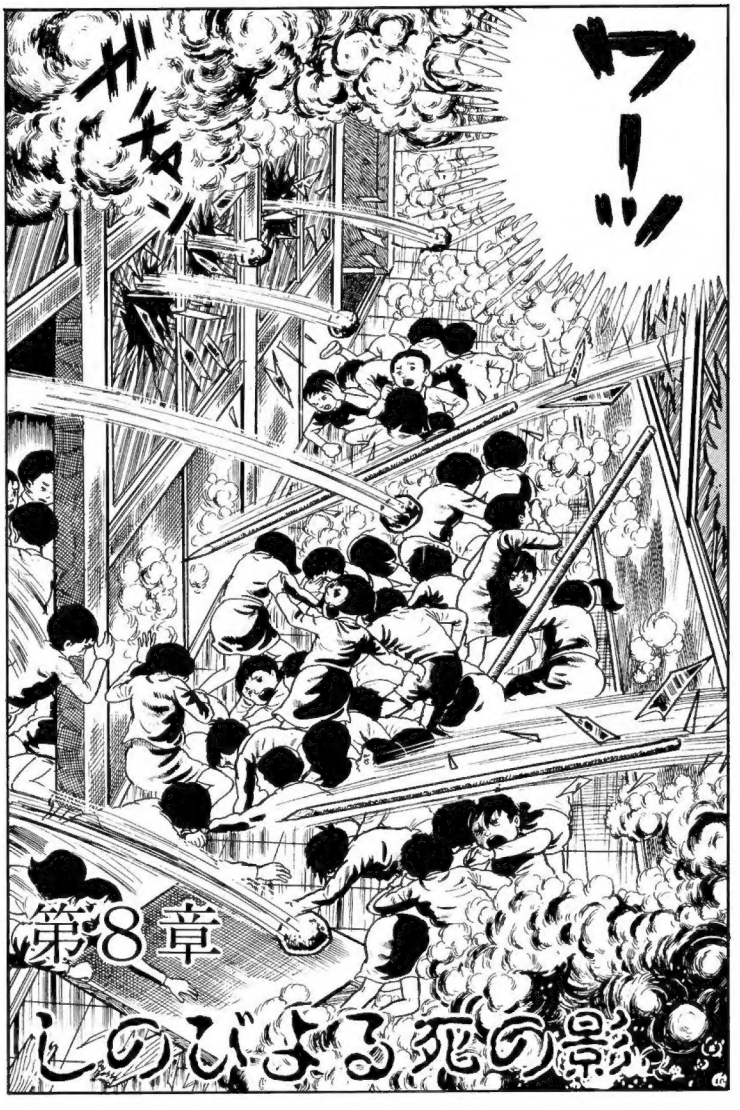






TO BE CONTINUED...

IN THE NEXT VOLUME...



As the plague spreads throughout the school, the students fight each other to the bitter end! Back in the past, Sho's mother hears her son's cries for help...but how can she save her son now?
AVAILABLE JUNE 2007!

THE DRIFTING CLASSROOM
Vol. 5

STORY AND ART BY KAZUO UMEZU

Translation/Yuji Oniki
Touch-up Art & Lettering/Kelle Han
Design/Izumi Evers
Editor/Jason Thompson

Managing Editor/Annette Roman
Editorial Director/Elizabeth Kawasaki
Editor in Chief/Alvin Lu
Sr. Director of Acquisitions/Rika Inouye
Sr. VP of Marketing/Liza Coppola
Exec. VP of Sales & Marketing/John Easum
Publisher/Hyoe Narita

© 1974 Kazuo UMEZU/Shogakukan Inc. First published by Shogakukan Inc. in Japan as "Hyoryu Kyoshitsu." New and adapted artwork and text © 2007 VIZ Media, LLC. The DRIFTING CLASSROOM logo is a trademark of VIZ Media, LLC. All rights reserved. The stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this publication are entirely fictional.

No portion of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means without written permission from the copyright holders.

Printed in Canada

Published by VIZ Media, LLC
P.O. Box 77010
San Francisco, CA 94107

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1
First printing, April 2007

www.viz.com
store.viz.com